

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جوردان تايمز يومية مستقلة تصدر عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية، الرأسي

Volume 15 Number 4461 AMMAN WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 8, 1990, MUHARRAM 17, 1411 Price: Jordan 100 fils; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams

Group says it will free hostages

BEIRUT (R) — A Palestinian group said Tuesday it would free two Swiss hostages within the next 24 hours in response to Syrian, Libyan and Algerian mediation efforts. "The Palestinian Revolutionary Front (PRF) decided to release its two Swiss detainees within the next 24 hours," said the group in a statement. The group made the announcement in a handwritten Arabic language statement delivered to the independent Beirut newspaper Al Nahar shortly before midnight. The statement was accompanied by an instantaneous photograph of Swiss captive Emmanuel Christen, 32. The close-up showed him with a short beard and moustache. The other hostage is Elio Enriquez, 23. The pair were kidnapped in Sidon, provincial capital of South Lebanon, Oct. 6, 1989. No group had previously claimed their abduction. Police in Sidon, 40 kilometres south of Beirut, had blamed the twin abduction on the Fatah-Revolutionary Council faction, led by Abu Nidal. But the group had denied the charge. The group has been reported undergoing bloody internal purges over the past year.

Kuwait solidarity committee set up

AMMAN (Petra) — Secretary General of the Jordanian Committee for Supporting the Kuwaiti People Mohammad Al Rashdan lauded His Majesty King Hussein's national day, which stems from Jordan's keenness on the unity of the Arab Nation against the dangers threatening it. Rashdan, speaking in a press conference held to announce the formation of the committee, said associations, public and professional circles in Jordan decided to form the committee to support the Kuwaiti people in "this historical stage in the life of the Arab Nation." He said thousands of volunteers willing to defend Kuwait and Iraq from the foreign aggressive threats contacted the committee to express their willingness to participate in what he described as the battle of the Arab Nation against its enemies. He said membership to the committee is open to those who want to take part in this national effort. The committee sent a cable to King Hussein expressing its support for his national courageous stands. The Iraqi ambassador to Jordan Tuesday received a delegation comprising presidents of the professional unions in Jordan who paid a visit to the embassy in Amman to express their solidarity with the Iraqi people.

King receives Saudi message

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein received at Al Nadwa Palace Tuesday evening Dr. Abdul Aziz Al Khawater, Saudi Arabia's minister of education and higher education, who delivered a message to him from King Fahd Ben Abdul Aziz. The letter comes within the framework of consultations and exchange of ideas over the developments in the Gulf region and strengthening bilateral Arab efforts to reach a conclusion to the conflict. The Saudi envoy was also briefed by the King on the latest Jordanian contacts to formulate an Arab solution on the developments with the aim of curtailing foreign intervention which may lead to escalation of difficulties. The meeting was attended by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, Prime Minister Mudar Badran, Royal Court Chief Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker, His Majesty's political advisor and the Saudi ambassador to Jordan. Dr. Khawater arrived here Tuesday evening.

U.S. to deploy force in S. Arabia

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — U.S. President George Bush Tuesday ordered several thousand U.S. troops and American jets sent to Saudi Arabia to counter a "threat" from Iraqi troops in Kuwait. U.S. defence officials said. The officials, who asked not to be identified, said a brigade of up to 4,000 paratroopers would be flown from bases along the east coast of the United States. He said Defence Secretary Dick Cheney obtained permission for the move from Saudi officials in talks there Monday. Aside from possible deployment of troops, the administration was exploring the possibility of an international blockade to choke off trade in and out of Iraq in an effort to reverse its invasion of Kuwait. Bush declined to answer reporters' questions about the crisis in the Gulf that has resulted in a swift escalation in domestic gaso-

line prices. At the White House, spokesman Marlin Fitzwater said Bush had told his cabinet earlier in the day "that he views the Iraqi troops lined up in Kuwait facing Saudi Arabia as a threat to the United States security interests." "That has been our message to Saudi Arabia and we believe that they understand that," Sen. Sam Nunn, chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, said an international naval blockade is "very likely unless the Iraqis back off." There was no immediate confirmation on what types of U.S. fighter planes would be sent to Saudi Arabia, but defence officials said they would probably include both F-15 and F-16 jets, which are considered far superior to older Iraqi air force fighters. The move came as Cheney flew home from Cairo late Tuesday after two days of consultations with leaders in Egypt and Saudi

Arabia. Defence officials said he had also obtained permission from Egyptian officials to move the nuclear-powered aircraft carrier Eisenhower through the Suez Canal from the Mediterranean into the Red Sea. Stationing the carrier in the Red Sea would put its planes in closer striking distance of any Iraqi troops that crossed the border from Kuwait into Saudi Arabia. Defence officials, confirming an earlier report by CBS News, told Reuters that the troops from the 82nd Airborne division at Ft. Bragg, North Carolina, would not be strong enough in number to fight at least 100,000 Iraqi troops if they attacked Saudi Arabia but would help provide security at Saudi airfields where U.S. warplanes would be based. The airborne troops were expected to be flown to Saudi Arabia directly in Big C-5A transports which would be refuelled in flight. Earlier, Sen. Nunn said the creation of an international ground force to defend Saudi Arabia while American, British and French air power formed an aerial deterrent would be the "ideal situation." The carrier Saratoga and four escort ships have left Mayport naval station in Florida on a week's voyage en route to the Mediterranean. The battleship Wisconsin was to leave Norfolk, Virginia for the same area. They would join the Eisenhower and the carrier Independence. Bush had declared Monday that sanctions approved 13-0 by the United Nations Security Council "will be enforced, whatever it takes." Fitzwater would not comment on a Washington Post report that Hussein had warned the U.S. charge d'affaires in Iraq, Joseph

Saddam Hussein: Take-over 'violent response to threats'

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — Iraqi President Saddam Hussein, isolated by the world for his invasion of Kuwait, defended the blizz-krieg Tuesday as a "very violent response" to foreign threats against Iraq. "The second of August came as a very violent response to the harm that the foreigner had wanted to perpetrate against Iraq and the nation," he said in a speech on Iraqi radio. About 100,000 Iraqi troops entered Kuwait on August 2 after Hussein accused his neighbour of stabbing Iraq in the back by pumping too much and driving down the price. Hussein said Tuesday that the

invasion was to correct the original flawed borders drawn up by colonial powers. He said he would reject any foreign pressure for him to withdraw. "We would rather die than be humiliated, and we will pluck out the eyes of those who attack the Arab Nation," said the president in a speech read by a Baghdad Radio announcer, monitored in Nicotia. The president said that the events carried on the tradition of Iraqi victories that started with the Gulf war with Iran in 1980-88. That war ended in a ceasefire in August 1988 and no peace pact has been signed. More than 100,000

prisoners of war remain to be exchanged and the disputed Shatt Al Arab, Baghdad's main outlet to the sea, remains blocked. The Kuwait invasion is "a new period in which the sun will shine on us in the coming days," said the Iraqi president. He said that the colonial powers drew up the maps of the Middle East to keep the population centres away from the region's wealth of natural sources. That left "the minority with a vast amount of rich reserves of the area it did not own, while the majority fell in need," said the president. (Continued on page 5)

Kuwaiti dissident groups hint at solution without Sabah

By a Staff Reporter

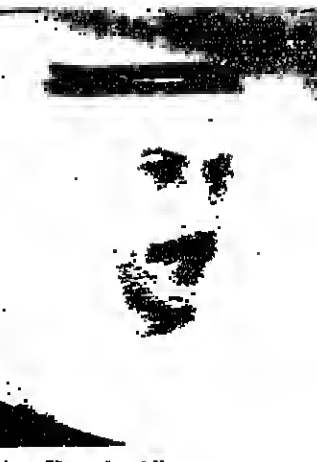
LEADERS of two Kuwaiti opposition groups on Tuesday issued a statement calling on Iraq to withdraw its troops from Kuwait and ensure for the Kuwaiti people the right to self-determination to be followed by a solution to the Kuwaiti-Iraqi dispute based on national Arab interests and away from foreign interference in the two countries' affairs. Ahmad Al Khatib, a former member of the Kuwaiti parliament who now heads the pan-Arabist "Democratic Bloc," and Jassem Otami who signed the statement on behalf of the "National Bloc," stressed the need of an Iraqi withdrawal and negotiations to solve outstanding problems between the two countries, but failed to mention any role for the deposed Sabah

family in solving the dispute. Some Jordanian observers interpreted the absence of any reference to the Sabah family in the statement as a sign that Kuwaiti political groups who were opposed to the former regime might accept a solution with Iraq on the basis of Kuwaiti independence and sovereignty without necessarily going back to the status quo before the invasion. Following is a full text of the statement which was made available to the Jordan Times yesterday: The democratic coalition and the national coalition have followed with great concern the developments following Iraq's occupation of Kuwait which constituted an encroachment of Kuwait's national sovereignty. The developments have also led to a dangerous situation which

does not serve the interest of the Arab people in any possible way. Now there appears in the horizon the possibility of a flagrant foreign intervention which serves foreign and Zionist interests since all enemy powers of the Arab people have benefited from the development of events and have started preparing to hit the Arab military power to further serve Zionism. In view of the above, the Kuwaiti national forces see that any delay from the Iraqi side to solve the crisis will bring great harm to the interests of the Arab people, especially the brotherly people of Iraq and Kuwait. Out of this concept we see that the quick measures which

Kuwaiti regime merges currency with Iraq, declares republic

THE IRAQI-BACKED government in Kuwait Tuesday merged the currencies of Kuwait and Iraq and declared itself a republic. The merger of the currency was announced by the "provisional government of free-Kuwait" early Tuesday in an order to all commercial banks in Kuwait to reopen and resume functions after a five-day closure following Iraq's invasion of the country in the early hours of Thursday. Kuwait radio, run by the Iraqi-installed government, said life in Kuwait city was now back to normal. Shops and government offices had reopened after a blanket curfew was eased Monday. Telephone and other links with the outside world have been largely severed since the invasion.



Ali Hussein Al Sabah

Saudi Arabia offered free flights to Riyadh to Kuwaitis marooned in Paris. Huge marquees were set at Saudi port of Khafji just south of the Kuwait border to receive refugees. Bahrain said it had formed a committee to look after the needs of Kuwaiti refugees there. Many Bahraini families have offered them help. Banks outside the oil-rich emirate have refused to accept the Kuwaiti dinar since the invasion. It had been worth \$3.20, close to the official rate of Iraq's dinar. The unofficial rate of Iraq's dinar is four to the dollar. Tuesday's currency announcement ties Kuwait's prosperous economy to Iraq's shattered by a 1980-1988 war with Iran and an \$80-billion

Damascus meetings conclude

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Mudar Badran returned to Amman Tuesday evening after heading Jordan's side to a meeting of the Joint Jordanian Syrian Higher Committee in Damascus. Badran said in an arrival statement his talks were successful and the higher committee had endorsed all the subjects included in the agenda giving approval for continued cooperation in economic, educational, cultural, agricultural and social fields. Badran and his Syrian counterpart Mahmoud Al Zoubi signed the minutes of the deliberations, which were attended by ministers and senior officials from the two countries. Badran voiced appreciation to the Syrian leadership for its hospitality and serious endeavours to boost cooperation. He said that apart from cooperation in several fields the two sides reviewed current developments in the region, "which have a direct bearing on the region's security and stability."

Senate denounces 'U.S.-led campaign against Arabs'

AMMAN (Petra) — The Upper House of Parliament (Senate) said Tuesday the essence of the crisis between Iraq and Kuwait lies in "policies that lead to the decline in oil prices and the damages this decline inflicted on the Arab Nation. In a statement issued Tuesday the Senate said, "the determination to the superpowers, along with Israel, to dominate this strategic Arab wealth (oil) and use it to serve only their interests was a main cause for the crisis." "Although the Senate is aware of the importance of settling border disputes among all Arab countries and is aware of the importance of oil, the continuation of its flow and its role in the progress of the human civilisation, it believes in the importance of Arab oil as a national wealth that should not be subject for being exploited by any party to

harm the higher Arab interest and the Arab legitimate right to this wealth," the statement said. "The Upper House of Parliament is deeply concerned over the extent that the matters reached between brothers because of the absence of one Arab will as a result of some hasty decisions and what they caused of damage to the Arab performance in addressing the problem, causing the failure of solving it within the framework of the Arab family," the statement said. The statement said: "The House regrets the resolution adopted by the Arab League Council on the crisis between Iraq and Kuwait and warns that it was a reason for harming higher Arab interests and a cause for establishing disunity among Arabs, undermining the Arab stand and was a cover for foreign intervention by all of its forms to

complicate the international situation and threaten the Arab destiny." The Senate, it added, "denounces that the United States and its allies for launching this extensive campaign on the conflict between two Arab states while the U.S. itself conspicuously committed an armed aggression against a small neighbouring country, and even occupied it without even one conscience moving to condemn this aggression or fighting it. The Senate denounces even more the silence of the U.S. and its allies on Israel's occupation of Arab lands, in Palestine, the Golan Heights and Lebanon. The U.S. has always been protecting the Israeli aggression and supplying it with money and arms and political cover." (Continued on page 5)

Israelis ready to test Arrow missile

TEL AVIV (R) — Israel is ready to test its new Arrow missile, built with U.S. money, security sources said Tuesday. Army radio said the test, which is shrouded in secrecy, would take place very soon. Israel built the Arrow; its main contribution to the U.S. strategic defence initiative known as "Star Wars" over two years for \$160 million — 80 per cent of it provided by Washington. By agreement, the United States owns the technology but Israel may use the missile for its own "defence".

Iraqi pilots grounded in France

PARIS (AP) — Training courses for about 10 Iraqi air force pilots in France have been abruptly cancelled and the aviators await the reopening of air routes before they can go home. The pilots, scattered around several French air force bases for flight training or to familiarise themselves with French equipment purchased by Iraq, were grounded as of Saturday. "They are at the end of their stay," a Foreign Ministry spokesman said Tuesday. "The pilots will return to Iraq when the air frontiers open again. Unless they don't want to."

BBC reports Iraqi 'jamming'

LONDON (AP) — Iraq has stepped up its attempts to jam Arabic broadcasts by the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) world service, the BBC said Tuesday. BBC engineers have detected interference with BBC Arabic transmissions on a range of short-wave frequencies serving the Middle East and traced the jamming to a site south of Baghdad, the BBC said. English broadcasts have not been affected. The BBC expanded its Arabic broadcasts from nine to 10½ hours daily last week following the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait.

West asks Red Cross for help in Gulf

GENEVA (R) — Ambassadors of major Western nations Tuesday asked the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) to act in the Gulf crisis, an ICRC spokesman said. "They came to make a formal request for the ICRC to operate (in the area)," spokesman Paul-Henri Morard told Reuters. He did not elaborate on the exact nature of the request nor identify the nations involved. But one Western diplomat suggested they might have been discussing possible Red Cross help in evacuating foreigners from Iraq and Kuwait.

First group of foreigners arrives here from Baghdad

By Ghadeer Taber Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The first group of foreigners to leave Baghdad after last week's Iraqi invasion of Kuwait landed in Amman Tuesday as Jordanian officials said the Iraqi-Jordanian border was open for travellers leaving Iraq by land. An Iraqi Airlines special flight from Baghdad arrived in Amman at 18:15 Tuesday carrying 73 Japanese tourists, five other foreigners, and 34 Iraqi nationals, a Japanese diplomat said. According to an airport source, the Iraqi Airways plane had originally filed a flight plan in Vienna but had to terminate the flight in Amman after Austrian authorities refused landing rights for the aircraft in line with sanctions imposed Monday by the U.N. Security

Council. The airline is trying to make arrangements for another flight, most likely to Europe," the Japanese diplomat said. Others aboard the flight included two Belgians, one Italian, one Spaniard and one Dutch national. The plane was believed to be the first to leave Baghdad with foreigners since Iraq invaded Kuwait Thursday. Security sources said that several Egyptian, Syrian and Lebanese nationals had crossed into Jordan from Iraq across the border but as of press time there was no confirmation of any Westerners crossing the border by land. Officials said Iraq had opened its border with Jordan and the Kingdom had agreed to a request by the U.S. embassy to facilitate American nationals' passage to Jordan. "The American embassy has con-

tacted our government to help evacuate some non-essential American staff and embassy staff dependents," Minister of Information Ibrahim Izzeddin told the Jordan Times. "We will provide all possible assistance to them," he added. A security source said the U.S. embassy planned to send two buses to Al Ruwashed, 360 kilometres from Amman, but 70 kilometres short of the actual frontier, to evacuate non-essential embassy staff and dependents. Baghdad is another 950 kilometres east. A U.S. embassy source confirmed that there was a drawdown in embassy staff in the U.S. embassies in Baghdad and Kuwait. "Both embassies have begun to arrange for the departure of non-essential staff and dependents," the diplomat said. "Private American

Impact of Kuwaiti devaluation not immediately felt in Jordan

By P.V. Vivekanand Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Jordanian commercial banks did not take any immediate action in response to the devaluation of the Kuwaiti dinar announced Sunday by the "provisional" Iraq-backed government in Kuwait and continued to extend a KD 1-to-JD 1 "deposit/loan" facility offered to Kuwaiti nationals and Jordanian residents of Kuwait now in Jordan, according to banking officials. Officials from the four banks which implemented the arrangement Sunday — the Jordan Kuwait Bank, the Housing Bank, the Arab Bank and the Islamic Bank — said they had no immediate plans to call off the arrangement, but the possibility remained that the situation could change by the time the banks reopen Wednesday. "We are continuing to release Jordanian dinars against deposits in

Kuwaiti dinars on a one-to-one basis," said Sufian Sartawi, director-general of the Jordan Kuwait Bank. The arrangement, worked out under instructions from the government in a bid to help Kuwaiti nationals stranded in Jordan in the wake of the take-over of their country by Iraq, remained in place Tuesday also at the other three banks. "Business was as usual today," said a senior official at the Arab Bank. "I do not know about tomorrow; perhaps the arrangement may be terminated, perhaps not." The provisional government in Kuwait Tuesday ordered the reopening of all banks in the country after effectively devaluing the Kuwaiti dinar by announcing that it was now at par with the Iraqi dinar. Before the Iraqi take-over of Kuwait, each Kuwaiti dinar used to be equivalent to 12 Iraqi dinars in the free market. Officially, the Iraqi dinar, which is not convertible and is under strict export control measures, is worth

\$3.20 while in the Iraqi black market it takes four dinars to buy one dollar. On Wednesday, one day before Iraqi troops moved in to their Gulf neighbour, the Kuwaiti dinar was set at 0.29 to the dollar. Since then, the Central Bank of Kuwait has ceased issuing its daily exchange rate bulletins. There was no instructions or guidelines issued Tuesday by the Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ) in response to the announcement from the Iraqi-backed regime in Kuwait, Sartawi and other officials said. But, explained analyst Fahed Faneh, "the Central Bank is not directly involved in the moneychanging market and therefore there need not be any CBJ intervention." At the same time, Faneh pointed out, the officially set rates of exchange of the Iraqi dinar and Kuwaiti dinar for purposes of imports and exports were almost the same in

Turkey closes Iraqi pipeline

ANKARA (Agencies) — Turkey announced Tuesday it had stopped tankers from loading Iraqi oil from the last operating pipeline through the country and Iraq was reported to have reduced its flow of oil through its pipeline across Saudi Arabia. The Turkish decision effectively stops the operation of the pipeline taking oil from northern Iraq to a Turkish terminal at the northeastern tip of the Mediterranean. Mehmet Koceler, state minister in charge of oil affairs, said Iraq could continue to pump crude oil through the pipeline until the storage tanks at the terminal were full, but then must stop pumping. The minister said it would take about six days to reach capacity in the tanks.

Mubarak said to reject U.S. request for facilities

ALEXANDRIA (Agencies) — President Hosni Mubarak Tuesday received senior Iraqi, Kuwaiti and American officials as he stepped up his diplomatic efforts to end Iraq's take-over of Kuwait and was reported to have turned down a U.S. request for military facilities. Mubarak received a message from Iraqi President Saddam Hussein, explaining why Iraqi troops took-over Kuwait last Thursday. The message was relayed by Izzat Ibrahim, vice-president and deputy chairman of Iraq's ruling Revolutionary Command Council. Presidential sources, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said the message to Mubarak concerned "the present situation and its development. It explains the Iraqi view point on the present crisis." After Mubarak and Ibrahim met for two hours, including a working lunch, the Iraqi official left and Mubarak met with

Cheney for one hour. Cheney refused to talk to reporters as he departed Ras Al Teen palace. U.S. Defence Department sources in Washington said Cheney was seeking approval from Mubarak to move the aircraft carrier USS Eisenhower — with its complement of sophisticated aircraft — through the Suez Canal. Cheney also was seeking the cooperation of Mideastern nations to station a multinational ground force in Saudi Arabia, said the source, speaking on condition of anonymity. Radio Monte Carlo quoted sources as saying the Egyptian president had refused to give guarantees or grant military facilities to the Pentagon. Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butros Ghali, in an interview with French radio said that "Egypt wants to prevent any foreign intervention in the area and is working on a peaceful solution to the conflict."

He stressed that the most important thing at this time was to extend all efforts to open a dialogue between the parties to the conflict who will in turn make their own solution. Earlier in the day, Mubarak spoke on the phone with U.S. President George Bush. The two leaders discussed the situation in Kuwait. The presidential sources said Mubarak later discussed with Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney "the explosive situation in the Gulf region." Mubarak then received Kuwaiti Crown Prince Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah, who along with other senior Kuwaiti officials fled the country following the invasion. "It is always good to come to our oldest sister Egypt... which has borne the severest of pressures and has made the dearest of sacrifices," said a written arrival statement by Sheikh Saad which was distributed to reporters.

Iraqi army — almost impregnable in desert war

By John Fullerton
Reuters

CAIR — Iraqi's big battalions would be impossible to crack in a long desert war.

But military analysts say the air and naval forces now gathering in the region provide enough punch to strangle the country over a period of months and, if necessary, paralyse it with a tattoo of massive hammer blows within a week.

There are, the analysts say, three basic options available to U.S. and allied forces converging on the Gulf, with air power playing a leading role in each.

The first is a simple blockade, enforcing global sanctions agreed by the U.N. Security Council and designed to apply a stranglehold that could take weeks or months to bite.

A boycott could eventually bring in neighbouring Saudi Arabia in the conflict.

Analysts said Iraq's most likely target would be the large Gowa oilfield near the oasis town of Hofuf in the kingdom's eastern province, southwest of Dhahran.

That could bring in option two — air strikes aimed at blunting an Iraqi offensive.

"The Iraqi military weakness is logistic support. Although Iraqi armour would be able to speed along highways, they tend to get into difficulties when they go on the offensive," said Don Kerr of the International Institute for Strategic Studies.

With 75 combat aircraft available from U.S. carriers in the area, Iraq's burn-out tanks would be left to rust in the sand. Baghdad's mainly elderly combat jets would be easily outclassed by the American F-14s and F-16s.

Fraq's 1980 thrust into Iran quickly ran out of steam — largely because the support system broke down.

The rest of the eight-year war with Iran had the Iraqis fighting mainly behind well-prepared defences against "human wave" assaults. Unlike the Americans, the Iraqis did not have B-52 bombers capable of carpeting the battlefield with high explosives.

The third option was a "doomsday" scenario.

It would involve massive blows, struck by the B-52 bombers, each carrying more than 100 500-pound bombs as well as air-launched Tomahawk cruise missile fitted with conventional warheads.

Iraq has no effective defence against air-launched cruise missiles (ALCMs). Accurate to within 30 metres over a range of about 1,500 km, their use would reduce risks to the lives of American pilots.

The aim would be to paralyse Iraq as a viable military machine by fracturing its central nervous system.

First, F-111 planes, specialised in low-altitude penetration and precision bombing, would strike, neutralising Iraq's substantial air defence system.

Some of these aircraft were reported to be operating out of Incirlik air base in Turkey, but military sources said it was uncertain Ankara would give the go-ahead.

At any rate, F-111s could operate with in-flight refuelling from European airfields once NATO gave the green light even if Turkey remained neutral in the crisis.

Then, to block Iraq from retaliating with modified Scud-B missiles, Tomahawk ALCMs would seek out missile launch sites, stockpiles of chemical/biological arms and airfields.

Having blown gaping holes in Iraq's ability to counter the threat from the air, B-52 bombers brought in from Diego Garcia and Guam would move in to pulverize strategic targets.

Water and communications are also keys.

Bridges, highways, dams, airfields, power plants, oil depots and railways would be hit repeatedly over several days.

One important target would be the Darbanikhan dam near the border town of Halabja.

The dam supplies not only most of the water for Baghdad and surrounding industrial areas, but also much of the power.

Two highways linking Baghdad with Iraq's Gulf outlet at Basra would also have to be

kept out of commission.

All in all, the analysts say, Iraq could be shattered as a viable state within a week — or at the most, 10 days.

That was the textbook answer to the problem of bringing Iraq to heel, but reality could spring nasty surprises.

The United States and its Arab allies should avoid at all costs a gruelling ground war, said Don Kerr.

Only the very fit, already acclimatised and familiar with the Middle East, could survive let alone operate effectively in summer temperatures far above the boiling point of blood.

At best, a soldier from the cool northern hemisphere would suffer from lethargy without weeks of desert training.

Many would dehydrate quickly and collapse from exhaustion and heat stroke. Featureless desert and direct sun could cause more casualties than Iraqi firepower.

On the ground, Iraqis would be fighting on their own terms in terrain they knew well.

Keeping U.S. troops supplied in desert conditions thousands of kilometres from home would be a Pentagon nightmare.

"The unfamiliar and unknown — to say nothing of the heat — can degrade effectiveness, and spoil the way men use the best equipment," Kerr said.

On the defence, sheltering in deep trenches and with artillery support, well-disciplined, highly-motivated Iraqis would be difficult if not impossible to break.

Paul Beaver, publisher of Jane's Defence Weekly, pointed out that Iraq has 55 full-time divisions and a further 11 part-time divisions — all told, a million men and women under arms.

That is more than NATO member-states can muster in Europe.

Iraq's army is considerably larger than U.S. ground forces.

Ultimately, a test of strength would pit Iraqi muscle on the ground against the long, high-tech reach of Washington's

Israeli settlers kill Palestinian woman

HEBRON, occupied West Bank (Agencies) — Jewish settlers in the occupied West Bank shot dead a Palestinian woman escorting a pregnant relative to hospital in a new cycle of violence sparked by the killing of two Jewish youths.

At least 60 Palestinians were injured overnight in Jerusalem and the occupied West Bank in attacks by Israelis armed with stones and bottles, hospitals said.

Police deployed hundreds of additional forces in the city on Tuesday to quell the violence, but often did not interfere when Jews stoned or beat Arab motorists and pedestrians.

Thousands of Israelis attended the funeral of 18-year-old Ronen Karamani and 17-year-old Lior Tubul. Many mourners chanted "Death to the Arabs" and others shouted "The killers should be

hanged."

As the funeral procession of cars and pedestrians snaked through Jerusalem, mourners sporadically broke out of the convoy to attack Arabs. At one point, a group of black-hatted orthodox Jews approached a car and demanded that the driver, whom they suspected of being an Arab, show his identity card.

Just before the start of the ceremonies, an angry mob attacked an Israeli television crew covering the funeral, army radio said. Other journalists were pushed and shoved by the crowd.

On the main highway linking Jerusalem and the West Bank town of Bethlehem, mobs stoned an Arab-owned Volkswagen. The car overturned, and the driver was seriously injured. A woman passenger and two children suffered light injuries, police said.

Arafat leaves Jeddah after Fahd's 'snub'

JEDDAH (AP) — Yasser Arafat left Tuesday after failing to sell Saudi Arabian King Fahd a Palestinian-Libyan peace plan designed to appease Iraqi President Saddam Hussein while insuring Iraq withdrawal from Kuwait.

Arab diplomatic sources said Arafat was greeted at the airport Monday by a low-ranking member of the Saudi royal family and not by Fahd, a major snub in the protocol-conscious Middle East.

The Palestinian leader had to wait a good six hours at the conference palace until the king accepted to see him for a "mere half hour," said one diplomat, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

Arafat, he said, offered the king a set of proposals he drew up with Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi.

The sources said the proposals call for Kuwait to cede its Bubiyan Island, a part of its Rumailah oil field, and pay Iraq an undisclosed sum, possibly the \$2.5 billion it said, Kuwait stole in oil from Rumailah field. It straddles their border.

In return, they said, Iraq would withdraw from Kuwait and reinstate the Al Sabah family as the legitimate rulers of the country.

"The king listened patiently, with Arafat doing all the talking," said one diplomat with strong Saudi connections. "The king made no comment and the meeting ended rather abruptly."

He claimed that the king, along with other Gulf Arab leaders, were deeply displeased with Arafat for his failure to offer at least vocal support for Kuwait against Iraq.

An estimated 400,000 Palestinians live and work in Kuwait, many as citizens. Kuwaiti leaders have played a leading role in sponsoring the Palestinian cause, with vast financial assistance and moral backing.

Palestinians believe the backing could have been more substantial considering the scope of Gulf wealth.

"We think Arafat would do much better for himself if he left us alone and devoted his efforts solving the Palestinian question," said one senior Saudi official, who insisted on anonymity.

The sources refused to comment on a plethora of reports and speculation in Western and Arab capitals about Arafat actively aiding the Iraqis in their take-over of Kuwait.

First group arrives in Amman

(Continued from page 1)

citizens are advised to leave (Iraq and Kuwait) when circumstances permit," he added. There was no firm indication whether Iraq had informed that their Baghdad staff would be allowed to leave.

The embassy source said it was only a "drawdown," which means "business as usual" and not an evacuation in which all the embassy staff leave.

Other Western embassies in Amman said the Jordanian government has offered to help their citizens entering Jordan either by air from Kuwait or by air or land from Iraq but the British home office and the West German government said earlier that they had no information that their citizens were being allowed to leave. The French embassy said that it also had no information to suggest that French nationals were given permission to leave.

A Jordanian Foreign Ministry official said anyone would be granted an entry visa with or without travel documents. Those who do not have travel documents would need their embassies in Amman vouch for them.

A security source said Iraq opened the Ruweishid border point Monday night and dozens of Egyptian and Syrian residents of Kuwait had crossed into Jordan by Tuesday morning.

The Iraqi embassy in Amman refused to confirm or deny that the

border was open and that foreigners were allowed to leave Iraq or Kuwait. "We do not have any information," an Iraqi diplomat said.

Iraq's ambassador to Greece, however, was quoted by Reuters as saying that no foreigners were being held hostage and all foreign nationals were free to leave if they desired "by land through Jordan or Turkey."

A Western diplomat in Amman said that a busload of Spanish tourists had left Baghdad and was heading towards Amman. Their arrival could not be verified immediately.

A Jordanian official said Iraq had not informed Amman that foreigners would be allowed to leave but "anyone is welcome and the Kingdom's borders are open."

Thousands of foreigners were stranded in Kuwait after Iraq took over the sheikdom, closing the airport and borders. Iraq also closed its own airports and border with Jordan. Iraq later moved several hundred Westerners from Kuwait to Baghdad, including 200 British Airways passengers stranded in Kuwait. Baghdad said the transfer was a "matter of policy" but gave no other information.

A British embassy source said that 35 British servicemen were being "held against their will" and the British charge d'affaires was in Baghdad. British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd said in a statement Monday the servicemen were "in reasonable condition."

Countries rush to follow U.N. sanctions on Iraq

UNITED NATIONS (Agencies) — Within hours of the Security Council vote to impose on Iraq and Kuwait the toughest economic sanctions in the U.N.'s 45-year history, nations around the world were rushing to comply.

The U.N. vote by 13 to nil with two abstentions — Cuba and Yemen — bans arms sales, oil exports and virtually all trade with the two countries.

The 15 Security Council members are the United States, Britain, the Soviet Union, France, China, Canada, Colombia, Ivory Coast, Ethiopia, Malaysia, Finland, Zaire, Romania, Cuba and Yemen.

The United States, Japan and the European Community (EC) had already announced sanctions, and by their votes in the council, all but the two abstainers committed themselves to follow suit.

China and the Soviet Union had already announced a halt to arms shipment to Iraq.

U.S. President George Bush and British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher vowed to do everything possible to ensure the sanctions were enforced and they did not rule out any action.

Notable by their lack of response were the Arab Nations, although the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) was in emergency session at Jeddah, Saudi Arabia.

Turkey — crossed by a pipeline carrying half of all Iraq's vital oil exports, Turkey said it would impose the U.N. sanctions against Baghdad.

Brazil — Brazil, which has been a major supplier of arms to Iraq, suspended all imports and exports there to comply with sanctions.

Switzerland — The neutral country said it would take the unprecedented step of joining in-

ternational economic sanctions against Iraq and Kuwait.

Sweden — The neutral country said it would back sanctions, and that it was trying to find ways of moving its nationals quickly out of Iraq and Kuwait.

European Community — Ambassadors from the 12-nation bloc were meeting to approve the necessary legislation following the U.N. vote. Sanctions are expected to be in place by Wednesday.

Belgium — Foreign Ministry said Belgium's observance of U.N. sanctions would depend on their compatibility with Belgian law.

Spain — Spain imposed controls on Iraqi assets, but stopped short of an outright freeze. It has already made a similar ruling on Kuwaiti assets, insisting they must be authorised by the Finance Ministry.

Iceland — The Icelandic government said it had no business dealings with Iraq or Kuwait, and would comply with the U.N. economic sanctions by not taking up any.

Poland — The country's deputy foreign minister said sanctions against Iraq were justified and a decision on their implementation would be taken by the prime minister later Tuesday.

Norway — The Norwegian government agreed to comply.

Gibraltar — The British colony clamped controls over Iraqi and Kuwaiti-held assets, subjecting them to clearance by the government.

Australia — The government agreed to abide by the U.N. vote.

Taiwan — Officials of the nationalist government, which does not hold a seat at the United Nations, declined to say whether the island would observe sanc-

tions. India — India, heavily dependent on Iraq and Kuwait for oil supplies, and with 170,000 nationals in Kuwait, said it planned no early decision on compliance with sanctions.

In Dubai, oil leaders said buyers around the world were obeying the ban against Iraq.

"The market is extremely tight, there are no products to sell, if you hint to a buyer you might have something soon, the first thing they ask is if there is any Iraqi crude in it," a trader said.

Crude oil exports are easy to monitor as tankers would be observed leaving the three Iraqi oil terminals, but refined products are difficult to track once they change hands.

Iraq and Kuwait have processing deals of 30,000 and 20,000 barrels per day at Yemen's 170,000 barrels per day (bpd) Aden refinery.

"Buyers don't want to touch products coming out of Aden, it's like they were diseased," one Gulf-based oil trader said.

Yemen, linked to Iraq through the four-member Arab Cooperation Council (ACC), declined to take part in the sanctions vote.

Iraqi and Kuwaiti crude are blended with crudes coming from other sources at the refinery, so there is no way to tell if a particular cargo coming out of Aden is free from their oil, the trader said.

Iraq also sells products from its Zubair port in the northern Gulf and from a private tank farm at Jabal Ali port in Dubai.

Shipping and oil sources said the number of tankers coming into the Gulf have declined significantly since the Iraqi invasion due to the ban and disappearance from the market of Kuwaiti supplies.

No impact yet of Kuwaiti 'devaluation'

(Continued from page 1)

Jordan. The CBJ will be involved only where the official rates are concerned, and the moneychanging market will continue to be controlled by supply and demand situation, he pointed out.

"Of course, it is a disaster for the Kuwaiti dinar," he said. "On the other hand, it also gives a floor for the currency in that there is a minimum value for it. Following the (Iraqi takeover of) Kuwait, its value was anywhere between zero and its previous exchange rate. Now it can't go below the value of the Iraqi dinar in the parallel market."

"The Iraqi dinar, which has already gained in Jordan by 17 per cent (since the Iraqi takeover), will definitely go up further, carrying the Kuwaiti dinar with it," Faneek predicted.

The Iraqi dinar continued to be quoted at an average of 185 fils at Jordanian banks and there was no immediate boost to the currency following Tuesday's announcement in Kuwait.

International reports said the new regime's move had set the stage for hyperinflation in Kuwait, and according to a European banker in the United Arab Emirates, the best assessment of the real value of the post-takeover Kuwaiti dinar would be to check the prices of goods in Kuwait shops.

According to press reports, the Central Bank of Kuwait had around \$2.3 billion of currency reserves and 2.54 million ounces of gold in its vaults when Iraqi troops crossed over the border and took control of the country in the early hours of Thursday. These reserves represent the only real assets left to back the Kuwaiti currency and the new regime now controls them.

"I believe the (devaluation) move was aimed at stopping smuggling of Kuwaiti dinars outside," said Dr. Maher Waked, a former senior official of the Central Bank of Jordan and now a director of the Bank of Jordan. "If large amounts of Kuwaiti dinars were to be smuggled out of the country then it will pose a real problem as far as the monetary situation and reserves are concerned," Dr. Waked told the Jordan Times against

a backdrop of reports that thousands of Kuwaitis were fleeing their country to neighbouring Saudi Arabia across the desert, well away from checkpoints set up by Iraqi troops.

According to Dr. Adnan Salakh, deputy general manager of Grindlays Bank, "unless there is an agreement among the bank the devaluation is of no immediate effect since no banks are dealing with the currency." All commercial banks in Jordan stopped "buying" and "selling" Kuwaiti dinars yesterday.

Yesterday's move, which prompted the government to arrange for the "deposit/loan" facility for Kuwaitis stranded in the Kingdom. (A similar arrangement was also reported from Saudi Arabia. The rate was reported to be 10 Saudi riyals to every Kuwaiti dinar.)

At least two banks in Jordan have set a ceiling of JD 500 and JD 1,000 as the maximum permissible amount under this arrangement.

"Any single transaction involving more than JD 1,000 should have the approval of the head office management," said the head of the deposits section of the Jordan Kuwaiti Bank. The ceiling was JD 500 at the Housing Bank. The Islamic Bank said it had set no ceiling, and the Arab Bank declined comment.

No precise estimate of the total volume of Kuwaiti dinars deposited under the arrangement in the four banks was available but knowledgeable banking sources put the amount at around JD 130,000 to JD 140,000.

equivalent to about KD 50,000 at pre-invasion exchange rates.

Faisal Al Muhallab, acting ambassador at the Kuwaiti embassy here, asserted the "devaluation" of the Kuwaiti dinar as "a totally uncalculated move coming from a totally uncalculated regime" in Kuwait. "Our currency is so strong that no bank is going to accept the devaluation. The (new regime) wants to destroy our economy."

Contacted by the Jordan Times at a five-star hotel in Amman, a Kuwaiti national who said he was a bank officer in Kuwait commented: "I would not take much notice of the devaluation if it was not for the Iraqi dinar linkage which now implies that the foreign debts of Iraq will be balanced against the foreign assets of Kuwait. To me, it means a dramatic rise in the value of the Iraqi dinar in the next few days."

"It's a severe blow," wailed a parallel market buyer in downtown Amman. "We offered JD 1.5 to JD 1.75 for the Kuwaiti dinar last week when no banks would accept the currency," the "buyer" said. "Now, the best we can hope to get for what we bought is 175 fils to the dinar, at the banks' rate or whatever the Iraqi dinar fetches."

But, he added, "I am sure that some solution will be found to the entire problem soon and the currency will regain its value. Who knows, it might even go higher than what it was before the Iraqis visited them."

Kuwaiti crisis

(Continued from page 1)

foreign debt.

Later Tuesday, the government announced that it was abolishing the royal government system in the country, replacing the emirate with a republic.

The announcement, carried on Baghdad Radio and by the Iraqi News Agency, said the move was "an essential change on the road of the comprehensive national and pan-Arab goals of the uprising."

"By this the corrupt satellite regime installed by colonialism is entombed forever, and emerges the bright national and pan-Arab dawn inspired by all the free."

The announcement followed a visit to Iraq Tuesday by Colonel Alaa Hussein Ali, described by Iraq as Kuwait's new prime minister, armed forces commander-in-chief, minister of defence and acting minister of the interior.

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 77311-19

PROGRAMME ONE
15:30 Koran
15:40 Programme review
15:45 Children's programme
17:30 Educational programme
18:00 News summary in Arabic
18:05 Cairo news message
18:30 Local programme
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Arabic series
21:30 News in Arabic
23:00 "Asr
23:40 Play

PROGRAMME TWO
18:05 L'Ami Maupassant
19:00 News in French
19:15 French varieties
19:30 News in Hebrew
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 A Family for Joe
21:10 Documentary: "Good Evening Jordan"
22:00 News in English
22:20 Challenger

PRAYER TIMES

04:24 Fajr
05:50 (Sunrise) Duha
12:41 Dhuhr
16:21 Asr
19:32 Maghreb
20:59 Isha

CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church Swediff, Tel. 810740
Assemblies of God Church, Tel. 652785
St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440
De la Salle Church Tel. 661757
Terrasanta Church Tel. 622366
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 63541
Anglican Church Tel. 625383, Tel. 771331
Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 77261
St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751
Armenian International Church Tel. 685326
Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 811295
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel. 815817, 654932.

WEATHER

It will be fair and winds will be northwesterly moderate. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly fresh and seas calm.
Min./max. temp.
Amman 17 / 30

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

EMERGENCIES

Civil Defence Department 661111
Civil Defence Immediate Rescue 630341
Civil Defence Emergency 199
Rescue Police 192, 621111, 637777
Fire Brigade 891228
Blood Bank 775121
Highway Police 843402
Traffic Police 896390
Public Security Department 630321
Hotel Complaints 605800
Price Complaints 661176
Water and Sewerage

Complaints 897467
Amman Municipality Complaints 787111
Telephone Information (directory assistance) 121
Overseas Calls 010230
Central Amman Telephone Repairs 623101
Abdali Telephone Repairs 661101
Jordan Television 773111
Radio Jordan 774111
Water Authority 680100
Jordan Electricity Authority 815615
Police Power Company 636281
RJ Flight Information 08-53200
Queen Alia Intl. Airport 08-53200

AMMAN:
Dr. Hisham Abo Arqoub 893122
Dr. Arafat Al Ashbah 602507
Firas Pharmacy 661912
Ferdows pharmacy 778336
Al Asena pharmacy 657055
Neiroubk pharmacy 626762
Al Salam pharmacy 696730
Yacoub pharmacy 649495
Shmeisani pharmacy 637660

IRBID:
Dr. Issam Al Saleh (—)
Al Sharaa pharmacy (985258)

ZARQA:
Dr. Izeddine Abdul Salam (—)
Khalifeh pharmacy 983417

HOSPITALS

AMMAN:
Hussein Medical Centre 813813/32
Khaldi Maternity, J. Amn. 644281/6
Akheh Maternity, J. Amn. 64241/2
Jabal Amman Maternity 642632
Malha, J. Amman 636140
Palestine, Shmeisani 664171/4
Shmeisani Hospital 661913
University Hospital 845845
Al-Musaber Hospital 667227/9
The Islamic, Abdali 666127/37
Al-Ahli, Abdali 664164/6
Italian, Al-Muhajir 777101/3
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh 775111/26
Army, Marka 891611/15
Queen Alia Hospital 602240/50
Amal Hospital 674155

ZARQA:
Zarqa Govt. Hospital (09)883323
Zarqa National Hospital (09)991071
Ibn Sina Hospital (09)986752

IRBID:
Princess Basma Hospital (02)275555
Greek Catholic Hospital (02)272775
Al-Nadwa Hospital (02)277100
AQABA:
Princess Haya Hospital (03)314111

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (06)53200-5, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

18:00 Damascus (RJ)
18:00 Jeddah (RJ)
18:30 Larnaca (RJ)
18:45 Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
18:55 Doha, Bahrain (RJ)

Banking employees back Iraq's stand

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Banking, Insurance, and Accountancy Employees Association in Jordan Tuesday sent a cable to Iraqi President Saddam Hussein expressing the association's full backing of Iraq's stand in the current Gulf dispute and in the face of the anti-Arab campaign led by the United States.

"The association members follow with deep concern and alertness the ongoing hostile campaigns against Iraq and are ready to fight the enemies of the Arab Nation and back the Iraqi people in the face of an aggression led by the U.S.-Israeli alliance," said the cable.

The association issued a statement in Amman condemning the United States-Israeli alliance as an imperialist power trying to intimidate Iraq, Kuwait and Jordan and paving the ground for a military aggression on the Arab states.

The statement said that the imperialists hope to steal the oil wealth and leave the Arabs poor and backward, depriving them of the means to achieve development.

"The Kuwait-Iraqi dispute is a strictly Arab affair and no foreigners should intervene in the dispute which can be settled by the Arabs alone," it said.

"Jordanian workers back the Iraqi and Kuwaiti people and express their readiness to offer assistance to the Iraqi people in the fight against the enemies of the nation," the statement said.

The statement also warned Israel to stay away from Jordan which will be protected by all Arab people who are keen on enhancing its defence against Zionist ambitions.

The statement urged the Arab countries confronting Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organisation to hold a meeting in order to examine measures to be taken to thwart Israel's plots and conspiracies.

Panel issues rules for safer environment

AMMAN (J.T.) — A ministerial committee charged with taking measures to ensure public health safety in the Jordan Valley region, set up last May, has issued a set of recommendations to the concerned authorities designed to eliminate the common flies which infest the valley and to deal with the natural manure and waste in a manner that can ensure a safer environment.

The committee, which comprises representatives of the ministries of water, health, municipal and rural affairs and the environment, agriculture, as well as the University of Jordan and the Greater Amman Municipality, has been specifically entrusted to study the general conditions in the valley and try to deal with the common flies and other insects.

A statement issued here Tuesday said that the committee members have come up with recommendations and also issued a set of guidelines to the farmers and the local citizens to ensure a safer atmosphere.

The committee urged farmers to keep the manure dry until it is used, to mix the manure well in the soil, to transport fertilisers in well-covered vehicles and to follow instructions and guidelines issued by the Ministry of Agriculture on the application of fertilisers.

The committee said that transportation and marketing of manure and other types of fertilisers should take place between seven in the morning and seven in the evening so that teams of inspectors grouping representatives of the police and the Ministry of Agriculture can see to it that the rules are respected.

It said that violators of the laws would be fined JD 50 for each time they commit a violation.

The committee also suggested the formation of sub-committees to supervise poultry farms and slaughter houses, to ensure they abide by public safety regulations.

It also urged the Water Authority to provide sufficient trucks to cart away the waste which can be treated at wastewater treatment plants in Salt and Kufunjah.

The committee urged the farmers to follow sound methods of fermenting the fertilisers so that they would not attract flies and insects.

Her Majesty Queen Noor had spearheaded efforts early in 1988 to keep the Jordan Valley clean and healthy. She herself paid several visits to the area which is frequented by vacationers, specially during the winter season.

The Queen had set up a special committee instructed to introduce measures to improve health conditions in the valley and to create public areas with good facilities to attract tourists.



AMMAN (Petra) — Their Majesties King Hussein and Queen Noor received Tuesday at Al Nadra Palace the Arab children taking part in the Arab Children's Congress meetings which opened in Amman Tuesday. King Hussein and Queen Noor welcomed Jordan's guests and emphasised the need to take care of children. One of the children delivered a speech in which he expressed his appreciation and gratitude for Their Majesties for their continuous care for the activities of the Arab children and giving them the chance to meet in Jordan.

Her Majesty Queen Noor opens cerebral palsy centre

ZARQA (J.T.) — Her Majesty Queen Noor Tuesday opened a new centre for the Cerebral Palsy Foundation (CPF) in Zarqa to offer free services to cerebral palsy children and orient parents on ways to help children avoid handicaps.

The new centre offers therapeutic sessions and medical assessment of children who show signs of retardation, medical examinations and instructions to parents on how to treat cerebral palsy children, according to CPF President Fakhri Bilheisi.

He said in an address at the inauguration ceremony that the foundation, which came into being in 1977, now operates centres in Zarqa, Irbid, Aqaba and Salt in addition to Amman.

So far these centres have offered services to 4,400 children with cerebral palsy.

This year, he added, the total number will amount to 750 cases.

According to the CPF president, cerebral palsy is a condition that arises as a result of damage in the brain cells during their growth. Among its several causes are: unhealthy pregnancy, difficult labour that might deprive the baby of the necessary amount of oxygen to sustain the brain cells, lack of proper care during the first months of life or household and road accidents.

In Jordan, he said, this condition occurs in 10 cases of delivery out of every 1,000. In the advanced nations the cases do not exceed one in every 1,000 deliveries.

The CPF centres offer free examinations for children before defining the severity of the case and the appropriate treatment.

Shreideh rules women's federation elections legal

By Mariam M. Shahin
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A new chapter in what has become known as the "women and the minister" saga was opened Tuesday when Minister of Social Development, Abdul Majid Shreideh, ended a three-month period of silence on the conflict between his ministry and members of the General Federation of Jordanian Women (GFJW).

During a two-hour press conference Shreideh rejected accusations by members of the GFJW that the ministry had made decisions that were illegal or unfair, saying that the federation members were to blame for all irregularities.

"Our job in the ministry is to apply the GFJW charter as it is written; if those who wrote it don't like what is written we are not to blame," Shreideh told a group of reporters and representatives of the new national executive committee of the federation.

While former national executive committee members and other recently elected executive committee members of the eight municipal branches of the federation have led a national campaign to declare "null and void" interpretations made by the ministry, the minister maintained that the ministry "was only doing its job."

"We gave the women, who are now complaining, a 17-month extension of their legal term in office to clarify anything that was not clear," the minister said. "They could not come to a common interpretation of the article in question,



Abdul Majid Shreideh

namely article 12; they asked the ministry to deal with its interpretation and said they would abide by our decision, then they changed their mind," he continued.

The group of women who objected to the interpretation of the article that defines electoral divisions claim the interpretation of the ministry has disqualified most of the federation's members from the right to vote at the national election which took place last Friday.

The minister agreed that the clause does not allow for "equal representation" but "not because we, the ministry, want it to be that way but because that's the way the charter is written."

Asked if he, as the representative of the ministry, felt it was correct to apply the rules of a charter which he thought were unfair he said: "We are here only to make sure the rules are followed regardless of whether we believe them to be 'fair' or 'unfair'."

The minister reiterated that the elections held last Friday were considered "legal and valid" by the ministry. Ministry appointed officials had declared that 63 out of 100 possible voters had participated in the elections while the rest held a loud demonstration on the election floor boycotting the voting procedure. The minister said that 68 had voted not 63.

One of the four legal cases now in court against the ministry, and the minister in particular, concerns the cancellation of 85 voters from the Irbid branch of the federation.

The minister maintained that the 85 voters were neither registered legally nor did they pay their dues.

The cancellation of the 85 votes from Irbid caused an uproar late last month and federation members charged that the ministry made the decision for political purposes.

The federation members said that the ministry had favoured a politically oriented Islamist Bloc, calling itself the reform bloc. The women also charged that the balance had been 60 to 40 in favour of the Islamists and that the inclusion of the 85 voting members from Irbid would have favoured the "nationalist bloc."

The minister strongly denied the accusation of having made a political rather than a legal decision and said the higher courts would have the final say in the conflict between the ministry and certain members of the federation.

PDP to reelect central committee, politbureau and secretary-general

By Basem Sakki/Jha
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN (J.T.) — As the time draws near for the birth of the national charter, political groups in Jordan have begun to prepare themselves to face the coming stage when they will come out into the open and become official parties.

The People's Democratic Party (PDP) which was formed a year ago, before any other political group had emerged, is now involved in the process of reorganising its internal affairs, preparing for the coming stage.

The PDP members have been holding constant meetings for the past five days at various levels and rumours have it that they will announce a surprising move on Friday.

PDP sources told Al Ra'i Arabic daily that the meetings aim at reelecting a central committee, a politbureau and the party's secretary-general and his assistants.

At the last PDP election Tayseer Al Zabir was elected as secretary-general and Bassam Haddadin, Salem Nahhas as assistants to Zabir.

PDP sources said that there was a general consensus among the party members that Salem Nahhas should be elected as secretary-general, with the other two serving as his assistants.

Certain considerations said they required that Nahhas be elected party secretary in the coming stage.

But, according to the sources, the meetings have not always ended with total agreement and certain divisions have begun to surface.

The sources stressed that the meetings will result in a split, with Hani Hourani, who had differ-

Deputies voice support for King's stand on Iraq-Kuwait dispute

AMMAN — A group of 16 members of the Lower House of Parliament Tuesday issued a statement voicing total support for His Majesty King Hussein's stand with regard to the Iraq-Kuwait dispute and accusing the United States of trying to destroy Arab nations.

"King Hussein's stand represents the aspirations of the Arab Nation and its real views vis-a-vis the Gulf crisis," the statement said.

"The real reason behind the brutal and hostile campaign on Iraq has emanated from the fact that Iraq has proved itself to be a living model of genuine Arab awakening and renaissance sought by all Arabs," said the statement.

"The hostile powers are now seeking to destroy this Arab force and harness the drive to achieve progress and development," it added.

It emphasised that the Iraq-Kuwait dispute is an inter-Arab affair that can only be solved by the Arabs, with no right for any foreign power to intervene.

"The United States' current drive to set nations of the world against Iraq is in line with Israel's policies and serves Israel's interests," said the statement.

"Any foreign intervention in Arab affairs will only further complicate matters, and can only serve foreign powers' interests," it added.

"Foreign countries are only interested in ensuring the flow of oil from Kuwait and they have been reassured of this by the Iraqi leadership which said that oil is needed by all nations because it is an important element in maintaining human civilisation," the statement added.

It said that foreign powers should heed King Hussein's warning of not intervening in the Gulf affairs and should note that any military intervention can only lead to complications that can result in the burning of all oil fields.

"Should this come about, not a single country, including those regimes now facing American pressure to join in plans for aggression on Iraq, can escape the consequences," warned the statement.

It said that Iraq had already reassured the Gulf countries of its keenness to safeguard their national interests and therefore they should realise that they will be the first to suffer from any foreign military intervention.

"We call on the Saudi monarch and the Syrian president in particular to join hands with King Hussein and launch a mediation effort that can ensure an end to the Iraq-Kuwait dispute in a manner acceptable to all parties so as to avert a world catastrophe," the statement appealed.

It said: "Should the battle be imposed on the Arabs, they will have no alternative but to defend themselves with all available means."

The group of deputies sent cables to King Hussein and President Saddam Hussein praising their national stands.

"Your loyal people will stand by you supporting your efforts and your leadership at all costs," the group said in their cable to the King.

In the cable sent to the Iraqi leader, the group said that any foreign aggression on Iraq will only end with total failure and the Arab masses will back the Iraqi brothers in their fight to defend the Arab soil.

Deputies issuing the statement were: Thouqan Hindawi, Jamal Khreisha, Abdullah Zureiqat, Issa Reimouni, Marwan Hemoud, Saad Surur, Mohammad Tarawneh, Dr. Awni Bashir, Ziyad Shweh, Husni Shiyab, Ahmad Innab, Nawaf Khawaldeh, Jamal Haddad, Mohammad Dardour, Salim Zouhi and Hisham Sharan.

Queen Noor inaugurates the 10th Arab Children Congress

AMMAN (J.T.) — Her Majesty Queen Noor Al Hussein Tuesday inaugurated the 10th "Arab Children's Congress" which is organised by the Noor Al Hussein Foundation (NHF) annually in a bid to orient children from various Arab states on Jordan's cultural and socio-economic development and to allow them to share experiences.

The Queen presented gifts and certificates of merit to those who prepared the past congresses in recognition of their efforts and remarkable work.

A total of 138 children from the Arab World are taking part in the week-long congress activities this year, co-sponsored in cooperation with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF).

Minister of Education and Higher Education Mohammad Hamdan addressed the children at the opening session, held at the Royal Cultural Centre (RCC), calling on organisations catering for the needs of children in the Arab World to prepare them for meeting the requirements of the future.

"The Ministry of Education gives due attention and concern to children in rural, badia and urban regions of the Kingdom, providing kindergartens and basic education with extracurricular activities," Hamdan said.

He referred to the world summit for children, which will be held in New York next month, as a step towards meeting the needs of children worldwide.

NHF Director-General Inaam Al Mufti described the congress as a precious opportunity for children from around the Arab World to work together to strengthen inter-Arab ties and preserve Arab culture and Arab heritage.

Later the participating children watched a documentary film featuring the previous congresses' activities and the students of the National Music Conservatory played several pieces.

The children's activities include tours of various places of interest, visits to Jordanian families, meetings with officials and recreational programmes.

The Arab Children's Congress idea came from Her Majesty Queen Noor who initiated it in 1980. The participants normally meet with the Queen towards the end of the programme.

Unions, politicians blast U.S. stand vis-a-vis the Gulf crisis

AMMAN (J.T.) — Representatives of various political groups, unions and professions in Jordan have appealed to the Arab masses to join forces and unify their ranks in order to confront the imperialist forces which, they said, were launching aggression against the Arab Nation.

The appeal was issued at the end of a general meeting held in Amman Sunday to discuss the ongoing American hostile actions directed against the Arab World, and means of confronting and dealing with such a hostile attitude.

The meeting reviewed American economic, diplomatic, informational and military activities designed to impose a siege on Iraq and the Arab people.

"The United States is stricken with voracity and greed every time it feels that its colonial interests in the Arab region are exposed to danger and has therefore sought to subvert regimes and impose low oil prices with the purpose of safeguarding U.S. economic interests," the statement noted.

It said that "the United States loses its temper whenever it hears calls by Arab people to preserve Arab wealth for Arab masses and to employ Arab wealth for building up Arab economy, a move that can rid the Arab people of hunger and backwardness."

"The United States has now moved fast to prevent any peaceful solution to the Iraq-Kuwait dispute because it seeks to create justifications to intervene in the area militarily," the statement stressed.

It said that America's history abounds with hostile and aggressive attitudes designed to impose Washington's will and to overthrow regimes which it considers threatening to America's interests.

"Israel is in constant collusion with the United States to impose hegemony on the region in a bid to help subjugate the Palestinian people and end their intifada, and to strike against the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO)," the statement said.

It said that Israel had coordinated its plots with the Zionist and imperialist forces and their stooges in the region to strike against the social and progressive transformations and liberation movements in order to attain their expansionist aims.

"It is regrettable that certain Arab countries are lining up with the U.S.-Israeli alliance against Iraq instead of fighting in the same trench against the unholy alliance," said the statement.

The Arab masses everywhere have been jubilant over Iraq's strike against forces trying to sell out Arab interests and to serve foreign economies and keep the Arabs in total subjugation to imperialist forces.

"The Arab masses, it said, strongly condemn the acts of those who have been squandering Arab wealth to serve the imperialist Zionist objectives," the statement said.

The statement called on all masses to line up against the imperialist forces and urged Arab regimes to grant the Arab people further democracy and more freedom to move; it called on the government to enhance the democratisation process in Jordan.

The statement urged all Arab and Islamic organisations to join forces in the face of the American imperialist aggression.

Meanwhile, the Jordan News Agency, Petra, Tuesday reported that representatives of the public organisations in the Balqa region have sent a memorandum to President Bush protesting against America's hostile action towards Iraq and the hostile campaigns launched on this Arab country.

The memorandum called on Bush to reconsider U.S. policies which, it said, constitute a grave danger to the freedom of all peoples.

The memorandum declared Jordan's total boycott of American media, and American products exported to the Third World and demanded that Bush stop interfering in the internal affairs of Arab countries.

The memorandum referred to the negative American and Israeli practices that had serious consequences on the Arab region.

"Your belief that the whole world is your own property has led you, as usual, to ignoring the rights of other nations and the Arab people can never forget your inhuman and unjust support for Israel, the world's largest base for sabotage activities," the memorandum added.

"We can never forget your interventions around the world to destroy the economies of other nations, like you did in Vietnam, your continuous encouragement of Israel to pursue aggression on the Arabs in Palestine, Syria, Egypt, Lebanon and Tunisia," said the memorandum.

If you claim that the United States leads the free world, where was the United States when Israel occupied lands belonging to three Arab countries in 1967 and when its forces occupied Lebanon in 1982? asked the memorandum.

The memorandum reminded the president that people could endure the suffering and the hostile action for a time, but they are bound to revolt at the end, destroying everything. "You and your advisers should resort to reason and realise that what is happening in the Arab arena concerns the Arabs alone and the Arabs are capable of resolving their disputes," said the memorandum.

"Your threats can never intimidate any Arab citizen and you should know that your stooges in the area had been realising the fate awaiting them," the memorandum said.

It said: "The hand to launch an attack against Kuwait or Iraq will be cut off, and the oil will be burnt along with all your interests..."

"The Iraqi people will never be alone in the battlefield, and we will never allow your conspiracy to succeed," it added.

At the same time the representatives of public organisations and unions in Salt sent a cable of support Tuesday to the Iraqi President Saddam Hussein expressing total backing for his policies and condemning the hostile campaigns directed against Iraq by the United States, Israel and the other imperialist powers.

Copies of the cable were sent to the Arab League Secretary General and the speakers of Parliament in Jordan.

HOME NEWS IN BRIEF

Upper House refers NMI law to committee

AMMAN (Petra) — The Upper House of Parliament Tuesday held a session under the chairmanship of the House Speaker Ahmad Al Lawzi and in the presence of Deputy Prime Minister and Interior Minister Salem Masa'deh and several ministers. The House approved referring a draft law on the annulment of the National Medical Institution (NMI) to its legal and social development and education committees and to label it as an urgent issue. Lawzi decided to call these committees to meet Wednesday at 10 a.m. to discuss the draft law. The House also approved resolutions by the joint committee formed from the legal and education committees on an amendment to the Jordanian universities law for the year 1990 and an amendment to the higher education law for 1990.

Summer term final exams start

RAMTHA (Petra) — The summer semester's final exams at the Jordan University of Science and Technology (JUST) started Tuesday and will continue until August 12, director of the registration department at the university, Faisal Rifa'i, said. He said the final results would be announced by Aug. 18. According to Rifa'i, 1,759 students will be sitting for their exams in the coming four days.

1,247 drivers fined in six months

AMMAN (Petra) — Public Security Department (PSD) sources said Tuesday that 440 drivers were fined for traffic lights violations during the period from July 4 till August 3, 1990. The sources also said that, 1,247 drivers were fined during the first half of this year for blowing their cars' horns and disturbing peace; most of those fined were drivers of cars selling gas cylinders, according to the sources.

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

- Open studio and workshop for artist Samia Zura displaying paintings, sculptures and hand-painted fabrics. Location: off 2nd Circle, opposite Rosenthal (9:30-1:30 and 3:30-6:30).
- Art exhibition by Ali Al Ghosni at the Royal Cultural Centre.
- Exhibition of paintings by 19 Iraqi artists at the Jordan Plastic Art Association Gallery.

SYMPOSIUM

- Symposium on "The Independence of Jordanian Universities" at the Royal Cultural Centre — 6:30 p.m.

The Jordan Times
Tel: 667171/6

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation. Established 1975

جوردان تايمز جريدة عربية سياسية مستقلة تصدر بالانجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية

Chairman of the Board of Directors:
MAHMOUD AL KAYED

Director General:
MOHAMMAD AMAD

Editor-in-Chief:
GEORGE S. HAWATMEH

Editorial and advertising offices:
Jordan Press Foundation,
University Road, P.O. Box 6710, Amman, Jordan.

Telephones: 667171/6, 670141-4,

Telex: 21497 ALRAI JO

Facsimile: 661242

The Jordan Times is published daily except Fridays.
Subscription and advertising rates are available from the
Jordan Times advertising department.

Alternative to dialogue will be very costly

IN YESTERDAY'S maze of events it was not clear whether developments were taking a turn to the worse or that the region drew away a little from the spectre of war. In fact things went both ways. Among the more ominous news were reports which spoke of American troops being sent to Saudi Arabia and Western navies continuing their build-up in Gulf waters and Turkey closing the Iraqi oil pipeline. The positive news was that Baghdad would allow all foreigners in Kuwait and Iraq who wanted to leave to do so.

How ominous the negative news were is something that should be easy for the world to see and understand. It is the impact of the positive "development"; however, that is likely to escape the minds of some of us who live in the area.

To most Arabs, the reports that Iraq would allow foreigners to leave can hardly be "positive" news. It is not that any Arab would be happier to see foreigners stranded in the heat of the Gulf. It is rather that very few Arabs would have expected the Iraqis to hold foreigners hostage in the first place. Iraq is not exactly Iran, and only Americans haunted by the scenes of U.S. diplomats held to ransom in Tehran in 1980 would ever look at allowing foreigners to leave Iraq and Kuwait as a very positive development.

Those Americans have their own reasons to assess the step in this light, and some of us will doubtless agree with their reasoning.

One experienced American observer yesterday gave his own analysis of the steps needed to defuse tension between the U.S. and Iraq. After the foreigners are allowed to leave, he said, American public opinion would open up a little bit towards the Iraqi president. This first step might be followed by a move giving Saddam Hussein a forum, if he so wished, to address the American people directly. He would be afforded the opportunity to be understood by the West. And if he has good news to announce, it would be his chance to do so at this forum, the observer continued. Having broken through the public opinion barrier, President Bush would then feel in a much better position to address the Iraqi president directly and maybe even reach some sort of understanding with him. This scenario, the observer insists, is the best possible option that can surface to avert the break out of hostilities, boycotts and blockades which will be in nobody's interest.

Whether or not this analysis is valid or not is open to conjecture. That something of the sort, leading to opening a dialogue between Washington and Baghdad, has to be done, however, is not in dispute any longer. Jordan, particularly His Majesty King Hussein, has expended enormous efforts during the past week to get the U.S. to understand Iraq's position and to open a channel of communications between Baghdad and Washington. The next step that others have to work hard at is to build on these efforts and achieve results. The alternative is endless war and massive destruction throughout the area. Those who can contribute to "positive" developments, whether Iraqi or American, should do so before the situation gets out of control totally.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

Arabic daily newspapers maintained discussion of the situation in the Gulf and discussed prospects for war and peace in that region. Al Ra'i daily warned in its editorial that the United States was aiming to cause splits among Arab ranks by propagating false alarms that Iraq is about to invade Saudi Arabia. But the paper said the Iraqi and Saudi people realise the American aims and objectives and are confident of the brotherly ties between them. President Saddam Hussein has sent a message to President Bush, expressing his country's desire to live in peace with all nations including the United States and voicing Iraq's determination to maintain strong Iraq-Kuwaiti ties, the paper noted. It said that the Iraqi leader wanted to thwart American plots and conspiracies which are designed to pave the way for an aggression of Iraq.

A columnist in Al Ra'i daily says that the United States has raised by 16 cents each litre of petrol sold to its citizens in a bid to rally public support for its on going campaign against Iraq. The U.S. administration has also whipped up a hostile campaign against the Iraqi president threatening to assassinate him, all because he is trying to regain Iraqi rights, says Tareq Masarweh. The writer says amid the hysterical campaigns being waged by the West against the Arabs, the United States has decided to freeze Iraqi assets; and in retaliation, the Iraqis have no alternative but to seize the American and British citizens in Kuwait since their lives are not more worthy than the Arab livelihoods. The writer also praises the stand of Fidel Castro of Cuba and other leaders who have refused to kiss the hands of the American imperialists who had invaded Panama and other nations and escaped sanctions and who have been supporting the Israelis in their aggressions and their occupation of Arab land. He criticises the Arab states which have opted to stand by the United States, repeating the American threats to the Iraqis, noting that the American hysterical campaign has been centered on American oil interests and not about the Kuwaiti people and the fate of the Arabs should a war start in the Gulf region. The writer warns of the consequences of American adventures and pays tribute to all those nations that support the rights of the Arab people.

Al Dastour daily commented on King Hussein's warnings to the Western nation against tampering with the explosive situation in the Gulf region. The United States and its allies are pursuing their hostile campaign against the Arabs, instead of giving diplomacy and dialogue a chance to solve the issue, said the paper. Washington, said the paper, is sending its fleets to the Gulf waters and trying its hand with economic sanctions in a bid to force the Arabs to give in and succumb to imperialist dictates. This campaign reminds the Arabs of those campaigns launched on the eve of the crusades in the middle ages, when certain Western powers tried to set some Arab countries against others in order to achieve their ambitious designs.

God bless America

By Khaled Mahadeen

WE duly appreciate America's keenness to preserve peace and justice everywhere...except in Palestine, and to establish right and security everywhere...except in Palestine and to uphold international principles and legitimate charters everywhere...except in Palestine...

We do appreciate Washington raising its voice, expressing condemnations and issuing threats... simply because its record is clear of any sign that it had carried out invasions of other countries or it had ever sent its warships, warplanes and tanks to any place in the world or it overthrew any regime or sought to do that in any part of the world. American history does not include any acts of invasions, or wars, aggressions or occupations, and it is a record void of any operations that entailed murders, assassinations, corruption of political, moral and economic life anywhere in the world.

For this reason, any action which does not please the United States or that not of its own doing or does not serve its own interests can only provoke Washington which sees in any nationalist move as an act of terrorism and considers economic assistance presented by one country to another refusing to remain under hegemony as an infringement on its own interests. Washington considers any military aid from one country to another without its knowledge and approval as a form of invasion...

We duly appreciate all this and more than this, as long as it is coming to us from Washington. But what we do not accept or appreciate is to see President Bush taking over the business of issuing good conduct certificates and declaring openly and confidently that Saddam Hussein was a liar, that the Iraqis are liars and outlaws or pariahs...

We do not accept that Bush be allowed to say that, without declaring that all Americans are honest people who tell the truth and abide by laws; and therefore they are idolised and so much loved by millions of Arab masses which are now sitting back awaiting the American salvation army which has moved from all directions of the globe by land, air and sea towards this area.

We had expected to see the task of cursing Iraq and the Iraqi people and their president and also cursing the Jordanians and their King to be confined to the American media. But it seems that there had been a mistake, and that the message had by accident reached the Oval Office at the White House instead of going to the press or television stations.

The president has thus assumed that it was his duty to start cursing Iraq and the Iraqi people and their president, and so he did. We should indeed consider this as a technical fault because this is the first time that an American president, a minister or ambassador utter such words of shame.

This technical error is justified in view of the great horror which has hit the enemy camp and hostile powers who regard any Arab attempt to enable the Arabs to regain their own wealth, that has been stolen by others, as enemies. These hostile forces consider the good Arabs who try to fight in defence of themselves as enemies, and they honour those who spend 24 hours-a-day enjoying food and drink, and rush to offer service to the foreign master...

I should say that no nation in the world possesses a more formidable war machine than the United States...but we are also, powerful, because we are a nation whose citizens hold the means for life and for construction. Perhaps those shortsighted enemies are tempted to enter the jungle... But they should realise that it is an adventure like that which the United States encountered in Vietnam, which the Soviet Union faced in Afghanistan and which Great Britain had to face in Yemen and France in Algeria...

At that time, the enemies of liberation movements considered the invaded territories as being inhabited by liars, outlaws and pariahs. But at the end it turned out that these repressed and invaded nations were honest and abiding by the international law and the focus of admiration of all people... except of course those who wrote the black pages of history...

We fight in order to defend our lives, but others fight to defend themselves from dying. We realise that we will save our souls at a high price, and we know that death is awaiting those who do not wish to learn that great peoples and not big powers deserve the award...

LETTERS

A disgrace to humanity

To the Editor:

Please allow me a little space to unite something about one important thing here which I think tarnishes our image as Muslims or Christians.

You may shed a tear or otherwise just read this price and relax. I am talking about maidservants from other Third World countries. There is no doubt that these maids render very important services. However there are several disgusting things that my conscience does not permit me to hide.

A majority of these house-hands work under very appalling conditions. Many are poorly fed and the work load is just too great for them. Of course they are paid wages but we must bear in mind they are human as well. Therefore they are entitled to humane treatment. It is unbelievable that in some houses maids cannot go out of those premises, in this age where we claim civilisation is at its peak besides the democratic societies we claim to be building.

I have a concrete and clear evidence of girl who is nearly out of her mind as a result of the terrible conditions under which she works here in Amman. We spend a lot of money feeding dogs and cats, yet we cannot offer a decent and good treatment to our employees. It is a shame, a disgrace to humanity, Islam and Christianity. Any way these poor servants need us just as we need them, so we must face up to our responsibilities.

If we cannot afford them, then we should not engage their services on dubious contracts — contracts that we ourselves quite often violate.

I hope this will be brought to the attention of the appropriate authorities and the human beings among us to check this indirect slavery. On the other hand if this falls on deaf ears, mind you the almighty is up there watching, we can run but we cannot hide.

Carl Wright
Amman

Economic Forum

By Dr. Abdalla Malki

American foreign policies and settling old scores

Irrespective of how one evaluates the entry of Iraqi forces into Kuwait, the outflow of oil from the area has not been disrupted. To the contrary, the financial stringency in Iraq makes the continued and smooth flow of oil in the interest of Iraq before all parties. The sheer burden of Iraq's external debt and that of post-war reconstruction task makes the uninterrupted flow of oil a necessity for Iraq for a very long time to come. Mr. Bush claimed he would not tolerate seeing 20 per cent of oil produced or stored in the Middle East come under the control of President Saddam. Well! If Bush really believes in market forces and he is not after settling old scores, let the forces of demand and supply be the judge when any party, be it Iraq or not, tries to manipulate the market. Assume that the conceived control will push the price of oil to \$50. Either this price is fair and therefore must be accepted or is not warranted by economic criteria in which case market forces will correct it. However, it is the intervention of foreign powers, such as Mr. Bush's USA, that most probably will lead to this disruption at an unpredictable scale and duration.

The threats of American military intervention will surely disrupt oil production and exportation in the area. And it is strange that Mr. Bush wants the world to boycott Iraqi and Kuwaiti oil. If it were Iraq which initiated a ban on the flow of Iraqi and Kuwaiti oil to the world, as Mr. Bush's sanctions are aimed at, this would be a satisfactory reason for Mr. Bush's administration to consider this ban as a threat to American (and Western) interests, and probably national security as well, and to justify the engineering of consequential military action.

And it is not the violation of the Kuwaiti sovereignty and territorial integrity which bothers Mr. Bush. Nor is it the restoration of the old government. For the purpose of illustration, assume that this government is restored and that, in the context of exercising its sovereignty and furthering Kuwait's national security and interests, it finds it is necessary to impose an embargo on oil exports to, say, USA. Mr. Bush in this case will instruct CIA to topple the government that he insists now, and under the threat of military intervention, that it be restored. Puzzling still is the fact that

Mr. Bush seems to grossly underplay the impact of military intervention and boycott of Iraqi and Kuwaiti oil on the world economy. There is no guarantee that Saudi production will be increased as to make up for the loss of Iraqi and Kuwaiti oil. (However, Saudi Arabia in this case will be violating OPEC decisions). The outbreak of hostilities in the area and local domestic reactions invited by the conceived military intervention, in one of the forms outlined by certain congressmen, will disrupt oil production and exports. Long before things are brought back to normal, the world economy will have suffered in a very bad way and will not be brought back to normal except after a full business cycle, if it ever will. The drop in the prices of stocks round the globe registered early this week is a very early warning of the nature of things to come. It is utterly impossible to assume that Mr. Bush and his advisers are blind to this fact. One can only attribute Mr. Bush's reaction, or over-reaction, to an overriding motive or burning desire to settle old scores. The long-term and staying effects of military intervention on world

economy, mainly in terms of inflation and sluggish growth, do not seem to be built in the present position of USA policy in the Middle East and in its attitude towards the Kuwait crisis.

And when we talk about the world economy in this context, we do not mean only the economies of advanced countries but also those of East European and Third World countries which will have, among other things, to foot huge import bills that cripple them for years and years to come.

Settling old scores means two things: Guaranteeing perpetual Western domination on easy and inexpensive Arab oil and uprooting any phenomena that herald Arab revival.

Because of oil, the Arab World suffered so many colonial and imperial evils to the extent that Arab oil did become a heavy Pan-Arab liability. It must therefore be treated as a pan-Arab asset as well. This is the equilibrium formula in the Middle East. And there are two sides to this equation. Ignoring it or changing one of them inevitably leads, sooner or later, to disequilibrium like the one witnessed now in this area.

Israel will not help U.S. this time — analysts

By Jack Redden
Reuters

TEL AVIV — Israel, despite its strong military alliance with the United States, would find it difficult and dangerous to join a U.S. strike against Iraq.

"Frankly, I don't see how it could take part beyond some sort of intelligence function," said Joseph Alpher of Israel's Jaffee Centre for Strategic Studies.

Israel has sought to improve recently strained political relations with Washington by saying their close military links make the Jewish state "a strategic asset."

The crisis over Iraq's invasion of Kuwait has shown the limitations of those ties.

The problems fall into two categories: Those for the United States if Israel were openly involved and those for the Jewish state if it entered an unpredictable war with the most heavily armed Arab country.

U.S. efforts to secure Arab action against President Saddam Hussein could founder on

open use of Israeli military power against a fellow-Arab state. Israel has been largely silent about contacts with Washington since Saddam invaded Kuwait.

Even if the United States should seek Israeli military participation, analysts see formidable dangers and logistical problems for the Jewish state.

"There is no easy solution, like knocking out a single nuclear plant and setting the Iraqis 10 or 15 years back," Alpher told Reuters.

Israeli bombers flew undetected across the desert in 1981 to destroy a nuclear reactor under construction outside Baghdad, abruptly postponing Iraq's debut as a nuclear power. Iraq was then in no position to retaliate.

The situation has changed. Although Israel believes an Iraqi nuclear capability is still years off, its research facilities and the weapons available to retaliate for Israeli attacks are now deployed across the country and heavily protected.

Israel does not see an im-

mediate danger from Saddam's million-man army or 700 combat planes. Israel's army, 500,000 when mobilised, and its well-trained 635-plane air force would probably be more than a match.

But Israel fears that any strike against Iraq would prompt a retaliatory strike with its growing arsenal of missiles.

Missiles developed by Iraq in the later stages of its 1980-88 Gulf war with Iran could easily target Israel.

Their inaccuracy increases the likelihood that they would be used against cities, as happened in the Gulf war, rather than at military targets.

Saddam boasted last April of possessing advanced chemical weapons and threatened to destroy half of Israel if it attacked an Arab state. The danger was taken seriously enough to prompt orders to distribute gas masks to Israeli civilians.

"Israel has to consider every risk and every possibility of things getting out of hand if it chooses to collaborate (with the

U.S.) in some way," said Daniel Leshen, a military expert at the Jaffee Centre.

Not only does Leshen worry about Israel's ability to engage in sustained military activity far from its border, he fears it could be drawn in without seeking to aid the United States.

"You can imagine a scenario where the Iraqis might think that Israel is collaborating on the operation and might look for a way to attack Israel," Leshen said.

Leshen, like many experts at the Jaffee Centre, is a veteran of military intelligence.

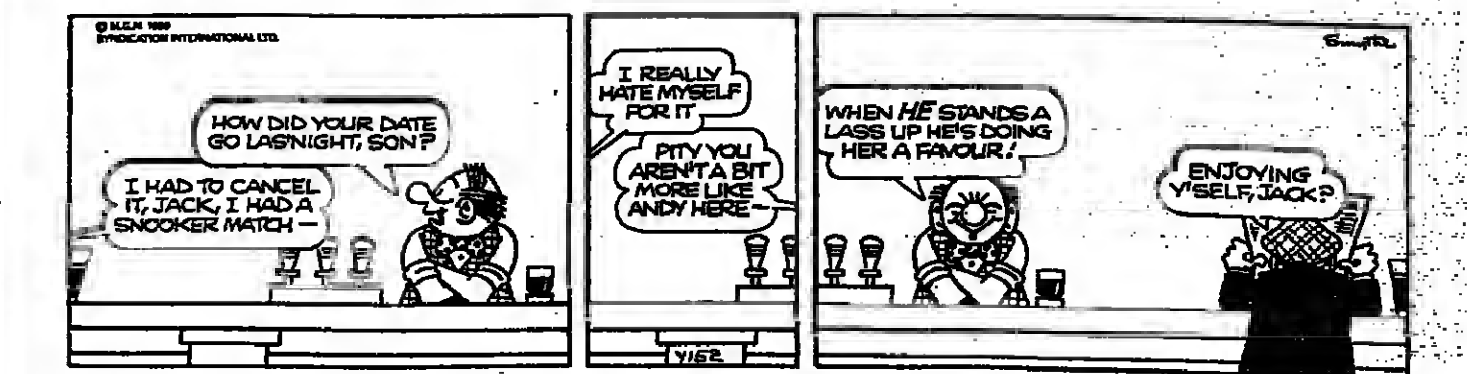
Instead of emphasising its alliance with Washington, used so often in the past to seek U.S. support in political disputes, Israeli officials have concentrated on warning Iraq against attacking the Jewish state.

"In such a precarious situation things tend to develop in an unexpected way," said Leshen, "and that is exactly the kind of situation that is most dangerous for Israel."

Mutt'n'Jeff



Andy Capp



Peanuts



U.N. imposes sweeping sanctions against Iraq

UNITED NATIONS (R) — Following is the text of a resolution adopted by the Security Council on Monday. It calls for sweeping economic sanctions and an arms embargo against Iraq and Iraq-occupied Kuwait.

The Security Council, Reaffirming its resolution 660 (1990).

Deeply concerned that this resolution has not been implemented and that the aggression by Iraq against Kuwait continues with further loss of human life and material destruction.

Determined to bring the invasion and occupation of Kuwait by Iraq to an end and to restore the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of Kuwait.

Noting that the legitimate government of Kuwait has expressed its readiness to comply with Resolution 660 (1990).

Mindful of its responsibilities under the charter for the maintenance of international peace and security.

Affirming the inherent right of individual or collective self-defence, in response to the armed attack by Iraq against Kuwait, in accordance with article 51 of the charter.

Acting under chapter VII of the charter of the United Nations.

1. Determines that Iraq has failed to comply with operative paragraph 2 of Resolution 660 (1990) and has usurped the authority of the legitimate government of Kuwait;

2. Decides, as a consequence,

to take the following measures to secure compliance of Iraq with operative paragraph 2 and to restore the authority of the legitimate government of Kuwait;

3. Decides that all states shall prevent:

A. The import into their territories of all commodities and products originating in Iraq or Kuwait exported therefrom after the date of this resolution;

B. Any activities by their nationals or in their territories which would promote or are calculated to promote the export or transshipment of any commodities or products from Iraq or Kuwait, and any dealings by their nationals or their flag vessels or in their territories in any commodities or products originating in Iraq or Kuwait and exported therefrom after the date of this resolution, including in particular any transfer of funds to Iraq or Kuwait for the purpose of such activities or dealings;

C. The sale or supply by their nationals or from their territories or using their flag vessels of any commodities or products, including weapons or any other military equipment, whether or not originating in their territories but not including supplies intended strictly for medical purposes, and, in humanitarian circumstances, foodstuffs, to any person or body in Iraq or Kuwait or to any person or body for the purposes of any business carried on in or operated from Iraq or Kuwait, and any activities by their nationals or in their territories which promote or are calculated to promote such sale, or supply or use of such commodities or products;

4. Decides that all states shall not make available to the government of Iraq or to any commercial, industrial or public utility undertaking in Iraq or Kuwait, any funds or any other financial or economic resources and shall prevent their nationals and any persons within their territories from removing from their territories or otherwise making available to that government or to any such undertaking any such funds or resources and from remitting any other funds to persons or bodies within Iraq or Kuwait, except payments exclusively for strictly medical or humanitarian purposes, and, in humanitarian circumstances, foodstuffs;

5. Calls upon all states, including states non-members of the United Nations, to act strictly in accordance with the provision of this resolution notwithstanding any contract entered into or license granted before the date of this resolution;

6. Decides to establish, in accordance with rule 28 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Security Council, a committee of the Security Council consisting of all the members of the council, to undertake the following tasks and to report on its work to the council with its observations and recommendations:

a. To examine the reports

on the progress of the implementation of this resolution which will be submitted by the secretary general;

b. To seek from all states further information regarding the action taken by them concerning the effective implementation of the provisions laid down in this resolution;

7. Calls upon all states to cooperate fully with the committee in the fulfilment of its task, including supplying such information as may be sought by the committee in pursuance of this resolution;

8. Requests the secretary general to provide all necessary assistance to the committee and to make the necessary arrangements in the secretariat for the purpose;

9. Decides that notwithstanding paragraphs 4 through 8, nothing in this resolution shall prohibit assistance to the legitimate government of Kuwait, and calls upon all states:

a. To take appropriate measures to protect assets of the legitimate government of Kuwait and its agencies; and

b. Not to recognise any regime set up by the occupying power;

10. Requests the secretary general to report to the council on the progress of the implementation of this resolution, the first report to be submitted within 30 days;

11. Decides to keep this item on its agenda and to continue its efforts to put an early end to the invasion by Iraq.

Senate denounces campaign

(Continued from page 1)

The statement said the Senate, "at a time when the Arab Nation is surrounded by real dangers, appeals to Arab leaderships to deal with this issue logically 'in accordance with the higher Arab interest and with respect to the will of nations and their legitimate rights'."

Based on this, the statement continued, the Senate:

— "Appeals to all Arab states to do their best to shoulder their responsibilities and exert every possible effort at all levels to protect the Arab Order from more cracks and carry out their role in dealing with this problem and the like in the framework of the Arab family to block the American pressures that threatens all the Arab future."

— "Rejects any Arab stand that relies on any kind of foreign protection or accepts foreign intervention in Arab causes and denounces any foreign intervention in the affairs of Arab states under any pretext or consideration."

— "Refuses the policy of economic siege and condemns the international campaign led by the

U.S. and its allies and rejects all forms of intervention and military aggression against Iraq, Kuwait and the Arab interests in all countries because of the real dangers represented in these policies against our nation."

— "Warns Arab states which are members of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) of falling into the trap of the aggressive siege against Iraq and the Arabs and not allowing the exporting and pumping of more than their officially assigned quotas."

— "Warns of the psychological war launched against the Arab Nation in all its countries by all available means and calls on the Arab Nation to shoulder its responsibilities courageously and to deal with all these attempts consciously."

The statement said the Senate "evaluates dearly His Majesty King Hussein's efforts at all levels to contain the crisis before it began and in addressing its effects." The statement added that the Senate "sees these efforts as an honest expression of the essence of the legitimate interests of the Arab future."

Dissidents

(Continued from page 1)

should be taken can be summarised in the necessity of an Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwait lands and in the quickest way possible. The decision should then be left to Kuwaitis to decide their future on their own without pressure or intervention. Only then could all pending problems between Iraq and Kuwait be solved out of the spirit of higher Arab national interests and away from foreign forces' intervention which cannot see beyond their own interests and which are only concerned to intervene to serve Zionist plans.

The experiences of the world have proved that solving problems with force only leads to more problems as Arab experiences have proved that the language of strength between two brothers only lead to serving the interest of the enemies of

the Arabs. Therefore we call on Iraq to act quickly and withdraw its forces from the Kuwait lands and let Kuwaitis decide their future on their own.

The national Kuwaiti forces, which suffered from the absence of democracy and from the constitutional void which Kuwait has lived through since parliament was dissolved in 1986, the suspension of parliamentary life as well as censorship of the press, now see that the most pressing cause at this time, the one that all well wishing forces in our country should adopt, is Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwaiti territories and saving our people from all the suffering they live in now as well as solving all the suspended problems between Kuwait and Iraq in a manner which would be in agreement with the benefit of the two brotherly people and the higher national interests.

Saddam Hussein

(Continued from page 1)

Due to their wealth, the minority made "corrupt decisions" in alliance with the West, which Hussein said was worse than failing under foreign occupation.

"The Croesus of Kuwait and his aides became the obedient, humiliated, and treacherous dependents of that foreigner," he said, comparing the emir of Kuwait with the king (in Arabic Karim) from the 6th century B.C. whose name is by-word for extravagance wealth.

"What took place on Aug. 2 was inevitable, so that death might not prevail over life, so that those who were capable of ascending to the peak would not be brought down to the abyssal precipice, and so that corruption and remoteness from God would not spread to the majority as a

result of need and poverty after the corrupt minority had distanced itself from God, values, books and disciples," the president said.

The speech indicated the president was unabashed despite a world trade ban on Iraq ordered by the U.N. Security Council on Monday.

Western navies are also building up their strength around the Gulf region to back demands that Iraqi troops withdraw immediately from Kuwait and allow the return of the ruling Al Sabah family.

The president earlier had talks in Baghdad with the new leader he has installed in Kuwait, Colonel Ali Hussein Ali, and told him Iraq would fight any attempt to unseat the Iraqi-backed government.

Gulf tension

(Continued from page 1)

Wilson, Monday that he would attack Saudi Arabia if his pipeline through that country were cut off. Reports said the Post had misquoted Hussein.

Asked if Hussein intent on permanent occupation of Kuwait, Fitzwater said: "He didn't give any indication otherwise."

Concern over the fate of Americans and other Westerners trapped in Baghdad appeared to ease Tuesday.

The State Department announced that the 28 Americans picked up Monday by Iraqi troops in Kuwait had been located at a Baghdad hotel along with 11 others who were taken there last week.

Spokeswoman Margaret Tutwiler said the Americans were not free to leave, but that those who had been seen by U.S. diplomats appeared to be in good shape and should not be referred to as hostages.

Gulf tension

(Continued from page 1)

American officials, speaking on condition they would not be identified, said the United States is discussing with Iraq a plan to allow some of the estimated 500 Americans in that country to leave by road through Jordan within a day or two.

Testimony was also taken Tuesday by three congressional committees on the swift recent rise in gasoline prices across America — as much as 19 cents a gallon in places.

Oil traders said speculative reports about the possibility of a Middle East war mainly influenced the energy markets, where crude prices seceded Tuesday afternoon after shooting above \$28 a barrel Monday, the highest level in five years.

Stock prices tumbled in Tokyo, rallied in London and seceded in New York following Monday's big loss.

Japan's economy can survive the oil crisis

By Linda Sieg
Reuter

TOKYO — When the first oil crisis hit Japan in 1973, panicking consumers rushed to supermarkets to stockpile toilet paper and other goods they feared would soon be in short supply.

This time, the aisles are quiet and the shelves are full. Japan's experience of coping with two oil crises and other external economic shocks should help to keep its powerful economy on track despite the threat posed by Iraq's takeover of Kuwait, economists say.

"It's almost as if this economy needs an irritant to perform," said Russell Jones, senior economist at UBS Phillips and Drew International.

"They always seem to pull success out of adversity," he said.

Adversity, some government officials warn, could be around the corner. Tokyo's decision to join Western nations in banning imports of Iraqi and Kuwaiti oil has increased con-

cern about the impact of the Middle East turmoil on Japan.

Minister of International Trade and Industry Kihon Muto said after the embargo was announced that higher oil prices could fuel inflation and slow economic growth in Japan.

But lessons learned in the 1970s are likely to help Tokyo avoid some of the worst effects of earlier oil crises, the economists say.

In 1973 and 1974, after the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries moved to restrict oil exports, world crude-oil prices more than quadrupled.

When that oil shock hit, Japanese inflation soared to 25 per cent a year, gross national product declined for the first time since World War II, and Japan's balance of payments slid into the red as the bill for imported oil soared.

Tokyo policy-makers responded, many analysts say too slowly, by tightening monetary policy, keeping

wages down and pushing industry to conserve energy. They also loosened fiscal policy in an effort to spend their way out of the recession.

As a result, "the economy recovered very, very quickly and within 18 months was growing at four per cent," Jones said.

When the second oil crisis hit in 1979 and 1980, oil prices nearly doubled. Japan tightened monetary policy more quickly than it did during the first crisis, and did not repeat the loose government spending that caused Tokyo's budget deficit to balloon the first time around.

Inflation peaked at about eight per cent and Japan's economy suffered two years of relatively slow growth before recovering.

Economists say the current oil shock is likely to be less severe and Japan's ability to cope greater than before.

Japan still relies on imported oil for 99 per cent of its supplies, but actually consumes less oil than it did in 1973

although the economy has more than doubled in size since then, said Salomon Brothers (Asia) economist Robert Feldman.

"If prices stabilise at \$25 per barrel, that's a 33 per cent increase over last year's level," said Peter Morgan, economist at Barclays De Zoete Wedd Securities (Japan).

"I don't think that \$25 is a crisis," he said. "It's not going to send shock waves through the economy."

"These recessions don't last very long because industry is very swift to respond," said Jesper Koll, economist at S.G. Warburg Securities (Japan).

Others say the Bank of Japan may hold off on raising its key interest rate until it sees exactly how higher oil prices hit the economy.

In any case, economists generally expect policy-makers to act calmly and confidently.

"Japan always knows its economy is vulnerable to external shocks," Koll said. "It's like earthquakes."

Alaska's oil will be tapped

By Yereth Rosen
Reuter

KATATURUK RIVER, Alaska — A U.S. wildlife official says Iraq's invasion of Kuwait is being felt even in far-away Alaska, where huge deposits of untapped oil sit under the green tundra of the vast arctic national wildlife refuge.

The invasion sent oil prices higher and placed the potential of long, 1970s-style lines at gas stations before the American public. Oil sources outside the Gulf are at a premium and one of the largest of these sources is in Alaska.

Referring to oil development in the 19-million-acre (eight million hectare) wildlife refuge, Don Voros, the U.S. fish and wildlife service's acting manager here, said, "It's a matter of when, not if."

"We have to be sensitive to what's happening in the Middle East," he told Reuters on Saturday.

"I think that could potentially put a lot of pressure on to open the refuge up. It may dampen some of the repercussions of the Valdez oil spill."

The spill, the largest in U.S. history, brought into question the future of Alaska oil development after more than 1,600 kilometres of Alaskan beach was fouled last

year when the Exxon Valdez ran aground in Prince William sound. But with the instability in the Middle East and with America dependent on foreign imports for more than 50 per cent of its oil, the 1.5 million acres (625,000 hectares) at the northern edge of the wildlife refuge is being considered as a new source of oil inside the United States.

Oil companies and the U.S. Interior Department say the coastal plan, wedged between the Brooks Range and the Arctic Ocean at the very edge of the United States, holds oil reserves that could rival those to the West at Prudhoe Bay, North America's biggest oil field.

Prudhoe Bay supplies 15 per cent of America's domestically produced oil; that and other Alaska north slope fields provide a quarter of the domestic supply.

The U.S. Interior Department has said the coastal plain's recoverable oil reserves total 500 million to 9.5 billion barrels; oil company officials have said the field might equal Prudhoe Bay's anticipated 11-billion-barrel yield.

Environmentalists say the uncharted vista of Brooks Range peaks and Arctic Ocean shores would be forever ruined and the refuge's environment permanently damaged by oil development.

Only about 32 to 56 kilometres

separate the Brooks Range from the Arctic Ocean, Voros said. That compares to the 280 kilometres marshy band lying between mountain peaks and the ocean at Prudhoe Bay, he said.

The debate was left unresolved 10 years ago by the U.S. Congress when it passed the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act.

The act, which created the refuge's current boundaries, provided the option for oil exploration and development in the coastal plain, subject to congressional review.

In the wake of last year's oil spill the Congress halted efforts to approve the oil exploration.

But Voros said he expects Congress to eventually open up the refuge to both exploration and development and for the past two summers more and more interested politicians, as well as environmentalists, have been arriving at the refuge for a tour.

Opinions are rarely changed by a visit, Voros said.

"I think people come out here with a preconceived notion and they see things that reinforce it," he said.

On a misty afternoon in the short arctic summer, when remnants of the winter's snow lie still unmelted on silty riverbanks, the coastal plain teemed with life and resembled the environmentalists'

dream. About 20 lumbering muskoxen clustered at a bend of a winding river, while a grizzly bear sprinted along the bank of a nearby stream. Birds swooped over the spongy tundra where herds of Caribou roam.

Environmentalists look up across the rolling land to the mist-shrouded mountain peaks looming in the south and pronounce the sight spectacular, Voros said.

But a Chevron USA Inc. oil official found beauty on Saturday by looking down at an outcropping of oil-speckled sandstone.

"This is one of the most significant oil shows within this area," said Tom Cook, Chevron's Alaska Exploration chief, chipping off small pieces of the outcropping.

"It has very high permeability," he said. "It's extremely fine reservoir rock, and that's one of the things for a large accumulation of oil and gas."

Voros said U.S. fish and wildlife service studies show that proper management could protect the wildlife and allow oil development.

"You can have both of it here, both development and the ecosystem," he said, looking at the moist, green tundra that some day, because of events 24,000 kilometres away, may be dotted with the spires of oil rigs.

JORDAN MARKET PLACE

THE PROFESSIONALS ALWAYS CHOOSE THE RELIABLE

PACKING, AIR FREIGHT, FORWARDING, DOOR-TO-DOOR SERVICES AND DELIVERIES, CUSTOMS CLEARANCE, TICKETS AND RESERVATIONS.

AMIN KAWAR & SONS
TEL: 604676 604696
P.O. Box 7806 AMMAN

CROWN INT'L EST.

packing, shipping, forwarding, storing, clearing, door-to-door service

Agents all over the world
Tel: 604688, Fax: 60052
Tlx: 22255 BESSACO JO
P.O. Box 82847 AMMAN JORDAN

EASTERN

PACKING, DOOR-TO-DOOR SERVICES, INTERNATIONAL FORWARDING, AIR & SEA FREIGHT.

TEL: 621 775 FAX: 656 270
TLX: 25 023 POB: 815 408
AMMAN-JORDAN

المؤسسة العالمية للخدمات المتخصصة

UNIVERSAL SPECIALISED SERVICES EST.

Specialists in Packing, Air & Sea freight forwarding, Storage & Insurance. House hold effects insured by Jordan French Insurance Co.

Valuable Commodities
Please call Tel: 610541
P.O. Box 6406 Amman.
1st Circle Jabel Amman

Saudi Real Estate

RENTAL 687821

SALES 687822
CALL SOHA

The Minaret REAL ESTATE

real estate "R" US

Just Call Us
Sales Dept. 833479
Rental Dept. 833478

STUDIO HAIG

Professional Quality in 1 Hour Service. Develop your colour film at our shop and get:

- JUNBO photo film 30% larger
- Free enlargement 20 x 30 cm

Shmeisani - Opp. Grindlays Bank. Phone: 604042
Sweifeh tel: 823891

Admiral Home Appliances

Special Prices

duty Free is available

- Freezers
- Refrigerators
- Washers-Gas Ranges

Wafa Dajani & Sons Co.
Makher Sured Tel: 824638

RESTAURANT CHINA

The first & best Chinese Restaurant in Jordan

1st Circle, Jabel Amman, near Ahlyyah Girls School

Take-away service

Open daily 12:00-3:30 p.m.
6:30-Midnight
Tel: 630668

Flashm Restaurant

FIRST CLASS INDIAN RESTAURANT

Special Executive Lunches
Take away service available

Open Daily 12:30-3:30 pm
7:30-11:30 pm

After the Philadelphia Hotel
Towards 3rd circle
Tel: 659519 659520

CHEN'S CHINESE RESTAURANT

Mecca Street, Yarmouk Engineers' Housing Estate, near Kilo Supermarket

Mongolian Barbecue for Lunch Friday only

Tel: 818214

Come and taste our specialties

Open daily 12:00 - 3:30 p.m.
6:30 - Midnight

PERKING RESTAURANT

AUTHENTIC CHINESE CUISINE

elegant colorful atmosphere

moderate prices
shmeisani tel: 606250
(closed on Mondays)

For the best for your MONEY ADVERTISE in the Jordan Times

Jerusalem INTERNATIONAL

Dine & Dance Nightly to Live Entertainment Variety of Music

Res: 665121
BELLY DANCING

فندق ريجنسي بالاس
The Regency Palace Hotel

LOBBY LOUNGE

AL SABEEL

DAILY PIANO ENTERTAINMENT

NIGHTCLUB & Restaurant

folkloric troupes, ballet dancer, luxurious dinner
Singing - Dancing and Fun

CONIMODORE

MIDDLE EAST

Tel: 665186 - 667159
From 10 p.m.

The First Class Hotel in Amman that has a Kitchenette in every room...

DAROTEL

Amman - Tel: 668193
P.O. Box 9403 - Fax 602434
Telex 23888 DAROTL JO

Ideal Residence For Expatriates and Businessmen

Ali Baba Restaurant

Delicious food

Lebanese Hors-D'œuvre
Fresh Fish & Lobster,
Meat, Calamaries, Chicken

Sayadiieh & Arabian Mansaf are our speciality

Tel: 313901, P.O. Box: 1081
Aqaba - Jordan

Goodwill Games face uncertain future

SEATTLE, Washington (R) — It's all over but the accounting and though supporters say the Goodwill Games will live on, serious doubts remain about whether the spectacle can outlast its cold war roots.

The thawing of U.S.-Soviet relations has diluted the significance of the games, set up four years ago to bring together competitors from the two nations after the boycotts of the Olympics in 1980 in Moscow and 1984 in Los Angeles.

Critics say the games which ended Sunday, have no future in the new international climate and financial losses have also clouded the outlook for the event.

"Yes we did lose some money," admitted games creator Ted Turner. "The exact amount will not be announced until later."

The television entrepreneur has estimated that his company, Turner Broadcasting System, could lose more than the \$26 million deficit suffered in the inaugural Moscow games in 1986.

"It's a reasonable downpayment towards an event that will grow in stature and, at least some point in the future, should reach break-even," Turner added.

His company put up about half of the \$180 million cost of the 17-day, multi-sport event and while Turner himself wants the games to continue, his company's board of directors will have the final say on future financing.

Soviet sports officials say the 1994 games, planned for Moscow and Leningrad, could go on without Turner's support. But they would still need Western backers to put up the hard currency for athletes' travel expenses.

Seattle organisers said there was international support for future games.

"There is a tremendous amount of interest from around the world for countries and cities to host the 1998 Goodwill Games," said Bob Walsh, president of the local organising committee.

The Seattle games attracted about 2,300 athletes from 51 na-

tions but were hit by the absence of some top performers, particularly in athletics, and track times were generally slow.

Many African and European stars stayed away, unwilling to make the long trip because of low appearance fees or to interrupt their training for the second half of the Grand Prix season and the European championships later this month.

Despite those disappointments, the games saw two world records and some big upsets by young competitors.

American swimmer Mike Barrowman opened the competition by smashing his own record in the 200 metres breaststroke and Soviet Nadezhda Ryashkina set a world mark in the women's 10-km walk.

In the athletics meeting, American Leroy Burrell upstaged training partner and world record holder Carl Lewis in the men's 100 metres.

But Lewis, winner of six Olympic titles, finally took his first Goodwill Games gold medal

when he outclassed an impressive long jump line-up to extend his winning streak to 64.

Lewis later generated some ill-will among the Goodwill crowd by failing to appear for the awards ceremony after leaving Seattle to promote his autobiography.

In women's gymnastics, Soviet world champion Svetlana Boginskaya, 17, was overshadowed by her team mate Natalia Kalinina, 16, who won four gold medals.

Three-time Olympic swimming champion Janet Evans of the U.S. was upset in the women's 400 metres medley by her future college team mate Summer Sanders, two years her junior at 17.

The youngest sensation of them all was China's 11-year-old Fu Mingxia, who won the gold in the women's 10 metre platform diving.

The Soviet Union won 66 of the 192 gold medals awarded and the United States took 60 with East Germany, in one of their last competitions before unification with West Germany, third with 11.

Jordanian basketball players gain more experience in U.S.

ALMAMICHIGAN — The Alma College Basketball Camp has an international connection — thanks to co-director John Weinert, former basketball coach at Bowling Green.

Weinert, who has been involved with the Alma camp for the past 22 years, visited Jordan for 33 days earlier this year through the Sports America programme to work with that country's Olympic team and promote understanding and unity through sports.

Now, Weinert and Alma College are returning the favour by hosting two coaches and four players from Jordan.

The coaches, Fadi Sabbah and Imad Said, both Jordan national basketball team players, will take home a wealth of information from the world's leading basketball power.

Already the guest coaches have made great strides in the camp, and so have the players — Munther Mubeisen, Shawkat Sali, Arafat Abu-Khalaf and Abdullah Shahin.

"We're halfway through the second week, and of the four kids, we've had two make the (30-player) all-star team and two have made the (16-member) 2-on-2 tournament team," Weinert said.

"I'm impressed that these kids can hack it. I've seen a lot of players, but I think these kids are in the upper quarter."

"I've been impressed with the coaches," Weinert added. "The interest is there. (Jordan) is trying to develop teachers. They're lacking in fundamentals because they're lacking teachers to teach the game."

If Fadi and Imad have their way, those deficiencies will become a thing of the past. The two have intensely studied the American game, and they're going to bring home videotapes as well as notes.

"We're watching other coaches work with the kids, and we're learning new drills," Fadi said. "We're taking notes of drills we don't have in Jordan. One of the best things here is the speakers. Each coach has his own philoso-

phy. "We're here to do two things — compare our players with American players and learn how to run a camp. We want to run our own camp next year."

Said Imad: "I'd like to be back for more basketball clinics to learn more. Anything that helps, they (other coaches) are there to give it to us."

Camp co-director Bill Klenk, Alma College baseball and J.V. women's basketball coach, says Fadi and Imad aren't the only coaches benefitting from the camp.

"It's been good for us," Klenk said. "We get a chance to get a little more respect for their nation and their people."

"Fadi has fit in extremely well, and he's sincerely interested in basketball. He's watching tapes, talking to the coaches, taking notes and attending all the meetings. And he's done a tremendous job watching the boys. He's very conscientious about making sure the boys are getting the most out of their trip to the U.S."

Make no mistake — basketball in Jordan is big, but soccer, the international pastime, still rules, and it probably always will. As Fadi says, "Everybody kicks a ball before they learn to dribble it."

And even when the players in Jordan do learn to dribble a basketball, they play the game strictly for fun, realising a professional career is but a dream. "Basketball is not a full-time hobby in Jordan," Imad said. "There is no pro basketball. Everybody has to work (a regular job)."

Nevertheless, basketball in Jordan has a flavour all its own. Since there is a shortage of tall players, teams rely on quickness and an up-tempo game.

Fadi cites two major differences between basketball in the two countries — physical style of play and team play. U.S. basketball is often more selfish, he says, and the lack of teamwork has cost the Americans in international competition.

— Morning Sun.

E. German sports machine heading for humble finale

EAST BERLIN (R) — East Germany's world-beating sports machine is heading for a strangely humble finale as unification with West Germany looms and the former communist country's economic problems multiply.

Always guaranteed lavish backing by a state that derived much of its international prestige from sporting prowess, East German sport now faces complete financial collapse.

"It is quite clear that the money we have is nowhere near enough to keep sport going in the form we have known," said Bernd Stade, spokesman for the once-powerful DTSB (German Gymnastics and Sports Federation).

Of the 10,500 employees in sport, 4,500 have already been sacked and 3,000 more will lose their jobs in August alone.

Just two of 592 athletics trainers will remain employed and all 350 swimming coaches will have to go. Market forces take no account of records — the trainers and their predecessors helped win East Germany more medals for athletics and swimming than almost any other sport.

East Germany's last domestic athletics championships, on August 17-19 in Dresden, will go ahead, said Joachim Krebs, deputy general secretary of the athletics federation (DVFL).

But he told Reuters it was only because other events were scrapped to save cash and sponsorship money was diverted.

"We want to have proper championships in Dresden and send a big team to split (for the European championships in Yugoslavia starting on Aug. 27)," he said.

"This is not to blow our trumpets but to give athletes and trainers a chance to prove themselves and make a fresh start," he noted.

It will be the last international appearance for a separate East German athletics team.

East Germany is heading for swift unification with West Germany, by the end of the year at the very latest and possibly by September or October. Sports federations in both countries are gearing up to merge too.

For the swimmers the final curtain is now. Without fanfare, a trimmed-down, 17-strong East German team have departed for Rome for the European Open Cup.

Van Rensburg advances at Virginia Slims

ALBUQUERQUE, New Mexico (AP) — Fourth-seeded Dinky Van Rensburg, who had a tough time winning her first-round match at the Virginia Slims of Albuquerque, hopes she gets used to the high altitude before her next match.

Van Rensburg survived a three-set contest Monday against unseeded Peanut Louie Harper, winning 6-4, 3-6, 7-5, in the \$150,000 tournament at the Albuquerque tennis complex.

"I got tired," Van Rensburg said after the match that featured long points played from baseline to baseline. "I think I had a lack of oxygen. But once you pass your first match under these conditions, you get used to it."

Fifth-seeded Brenda Schultz of the Netherlands, whose serve has been clocked at 113 miles (182 kilometres) an hour, won't have to get used to the high altitude and dry air in Albuquerque. She was the only seeded player ousted from the tournament Monday.

Unseeded Meredith McGrath survived Schultz's powerful serve

and won 6-4, 7-6 (7-3).

McGrath, a 19-year-old former Stanford player who just turned pro this summer, said there was nothing she could do to prepare for Schultz's serve. Some of them nearly knocked her over during Monday night's match.

"That was a bomb," McGrath said of Schultz's serve. "A couple times I didn't even see it."

But McGrath played a solid game when she could return the ball, and it proved to be enough to beat Schultz.

"I figured if she didn't ace me, I'd win the point," McGrath said. No. 1 seeded Jana Novotna, who plays an aggressive serve-and-volley game, is scheduled to play her first-round match Wednesday against Carrie Cunningham. No. 2 seed Laura Gildemeister of Peru will also play Sara Gomer of Great Britain Wednesday.

In other first-round action Monday, third-seeded Anne Smith overcame a sloppy first set to win. Smith, ranked no. 26 in the world, beat Marianne Werdel 7-5, 6-1.

Taiwan beats Canada in baseball

EDMONTON, Alberta (AP) — Pitcher Kuo Lee Chien-Fu allowed only four hits and Huan Chung-Yi's two-run home run in the second inning led Taiwan to a 10-0 victory over Canada at the World Baseball Championship.

The game was called after seven innings under a 10-run mercy rule.

In other action Monday, the United States defeated the Netherlands 10-4, Cuba blitzed South Korea 26-2 on the strength of six home runs, Japan beat Mexico 12-0 and Italy got by Nicaragua 8-7.

It was Canada's second straight loss at the 12-country tournament and the Canadians, whose Forte is supposed to be hitting, have found themselves confounded — in Monday's loss and Sunday in a 2-1 loss to Puerto Rico. The second round begins next week.

NFL carves niche outside U.S.

LONDON (AP) — More games, more teams, more hype.

Five years after taking a tentative step into an untapped and far-away market, the United States' version of professional football has become an established part of the sports scene overseas.

The New Orleans Saints took a 17-10 exhibition victory over the Los Angeles Raiders Sunday at England's National Soccer Stadium in the fifth edition of the American bowl, now a spotlighted fixture of the opening of the National Football League (NFL) preseason.

Also last weekend, the Seattle Seahawks played the Denver Broncos in the Tokyo dome, the second year for that game. This week the NFL roadshow goes to Berlin for the first time, as the Los Angeles Rams meet the Kansas City Chiefs in the stadium where the 1936 Olympics were held. With another preseason game in Montreal, it's the NFL's biggest effort yet outside the United States.

Tickets for the European and Asian games are hard to get. Merchandise with NFL team logos and colours can be spotted from the Giza to parliament square.

And helped by sophisticated marketing techniques, a disaffection among fans with traditional sports and a love affair with U.S. pop culture around the world, the U.S. interloper is more confident than ever that it can carve a permanent niche in the lands where soccer is king.

"There's no question that professional football someday will be global," said Al Davis, the Raiders' owner. "We know it's in the distant future but we hope it's in the foreseeable future that a development team will be over here."

In the words of former long-time Washington Redskins coach George Allen, the future is now — or at least just seven months away.

The World League of American Football (WLAF), a minor league of the NFL, is scheduled to begin its first season with four European teams next spring.

Packing a fat U.S. television contract and access to the game's top rosters, the WLAF says Europe is ready for football full-time.

"Millions of people here understand the game now," said Billy Hicks, the league's European coordinator.

have a hard-core audience of people who get excited about football."

Hicks worked for the NFL's Dallas Cowboys when they came to London for the first American bowl in 1986.

"The questions being asked by the media then were, 'what's a linebacker?'" he recalled. "Now, they ask, 'why isn't (Saints quarterback Bobby) Hebert in camp?'"

Jim Mora, the Saints' coach, came here with the Philadelphia stars of the old U.S. football league for a 1984 exhibition game at Wembley. He noticed a big difference in attitude, too.

"People have been exposed to the game. They identify with the heroes, the stars," Mora said. "They see the games on TV and read about it in the newspapers."

Most of the top newspapers have a weekly pro football column. Channel 4, an independent network in Britain, shows one game live and one on tape delay each week during the season, and has promoted the sport heavily since the mid-1980s.

Deregulation of TV around the continent plus the start of satellite

and cable networks also gives football access to living rooms, pubs and other places where fans gather and talk sports.

"The traditional, government-run networks may still have sole rights to soccer, rugby and the other big events, but with satellite and cable TV there is plenty of chance for us to get air time as well," Hicks said.

A recent survey by the British film institute of the country's television habits found 26 per cent of viewers 15-24 years old said they enjoyed watching football, almost identical, to the 28 per cent who said they liked to watch soccer on TV.

That younger, potentially high-spending part of the population is the target for the NFL and its spinoffs, and it's being helped by a spurt of popularity for the U.S. lifestyle.

"People in Europe wear Levi's, eat hamburgers at McDonald's and drink Coca-Cola," Hicks said. "They realise their culture won't collapse if they do something American. 'Really, we are a part of the entire American spectacle. Our's is a different animal.'"

GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF & TAMAR HIRSCH
1990 Tribune Media Services Inc.

NICE AND EASY DOES IT

Both vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♠ 8 4
♥ J 10 7
♦ J 10 7 5
♣ A 10 9 5

WEST EAST
♠ Q 7 6 3 ♠ J 10 5
♥ K 9 3 ♥ Q 6 5 2
♦ K 6 ♦ 5 4 3
♣ 7 4 3 ♣ K 8 6

The bidding:
South West North East
1 ♣ Pass 2 ♣ Pass
3 NT Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: Six of ♠
Unlike bumblebees, all finesses are not created equal. Some are safe to take; others are not, as declarer learned to his cost.

North-South's range for a two-no-trump opening was 21-22, so South deemed the hand a whisker short for that action. But when North was able to scrape up a raise South wasted no time in bidding game—and going down.

Declarer won the spade lead and, without giving the hand much thought, ran the queen of clubs. East took the king and reverted to a spade. Declarer held up one round, won the spade continuation, cashed out the clubs and then tried the diamond finesse. West scored the king and two more spade tricks for down one.

With more prudent planning declarer should make the contract even with both finesses offside. The key to the hand is keeping West off lead once the spades are established. Since declarer can afford to lose a trick to East at the key moment declarer should start by holding up on the first spade then winning the continuation.

Next, declarer should play the ace and another diamond from hand. West wins and can force out the last spade stopper, but declarer is in control. South takes the club finesse and doesn't much care whether it wins or loses. If it loses, either East won't have a spade to return or, if he does, the suit will break 4-4. In all, declarer wins three tricks in each minor, two spades and the ace of hearts.

HOROSCOPE

JORDAN TIMES, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 8, 1990
By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Caroll Fighter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Bring your ideas and reasonings to the attention of others but don't expect to settle any business matters until after the new moon and solar eclipse the evening of the twenty-first.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) This is the day for you to consider what good and unusual friends can do to help you attain your goals but let them know in a pacific manner.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) You want to make your mark in the world of outside activity today and it is best done by bringing your unique attention to bigwigs on a muted note.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) You are being pressured, without or within, to be off on some new and different interest but being over-hasty can bring undesirable results.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) Your present inclination is to take a contentious view a promise made but if you do so you find you are in wrong, trouble ensues.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) You have a worldly matter that has you all steamed up but the concern it causes is overstated by you so calm down and show your best smile in public.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) You are too anxious to add some up to die gadgets or

methods into your daily routines but make sure they are truly efficient before, using such.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) You want to have a good time at all cost and if you yield to such an impulse it can do just that so seek pleasures that are inexpensive but satisfying.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) Look for some way to calm a family member who is disturbed over a situation that can't be helped and need to let time work itself out rightly.

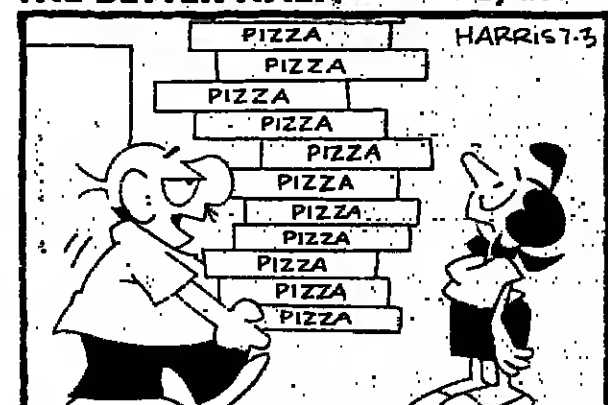
SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) Be careful not to drive to rapidly or carelessly on the highway and use care in motion as well as refrain from critical comments.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) You have all sorts of original and unusual ideas but they are a little too soon to wait a more propitious moment before you utilize them.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 21) You want the world to get out from under a restriction but need to use for more restraint than you desire at the moment but do so anyway.

THE BETTER HALF.

By Harri's



"I had a light lunch, so I can afford to eat a little extra for dinner."

JUMBLE.

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

ORVAS
SOMYS
DILPIM
BELTOG



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

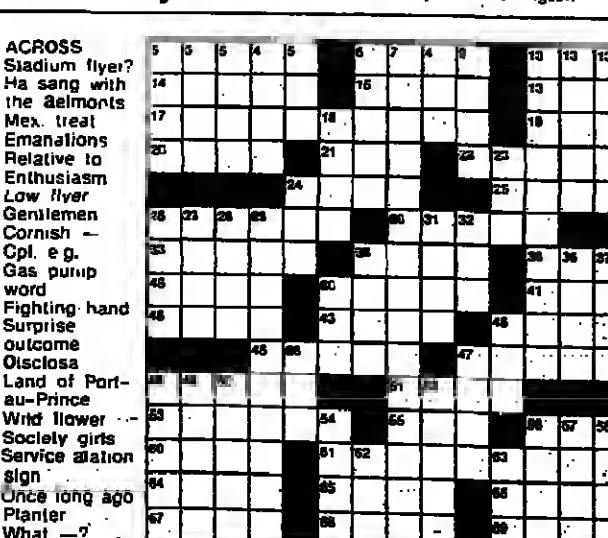
Print answer here:

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: QUEST GUMMY FORBID AUBURN
Answer: You should love to get this—MARRIED

THE Daily Crossword

by Hank Harrington



1990 Tribune Media Services, Inc. All Rights Reserved

Yesterday's Puzzle Solver:

1 Across: 1. Acrostic 2. Ha sang with the Belmonts 3. Mex. treat 4. Emancipation 5. Relative to 6. Enthusiasm 7. Low liver 8. Geneslem 9. Cornish 10. Cpl. e.g. 11. Gas pump 12. Fishing hand 13. Surprise 14. Outclose 15. Land of Port-au-Prince 16. Wild flower 17. Society girls 18. Service station 19. Old 70 20. Once long ago 21. Planter 22. What? 23. Cauleriza 24. Join closely 25. Old Roman garment 26. Bay window 27. Dog 28. Office worker 29. Fate 30. Guilty liars? 31. Fleet 32. Show 33. War god 34. Stead 35. Slow flyer 36. Outlet 37. Guiding daim 38. Unfeeling 39. Better's concern 40. Old 70 41. Eng. county 42. Divining 43. Clown name 44. Volley 45. Precooled 46. Improve 47. Removed 48. Chemical 49. Fundamental 50. Emptied 51. River 52. Thrill 53. Hades 54. Mountain 55. Suffix

Faldo seeks third major of the year

BIRMINGHAM, Alabama (R) — Nick Faldo, aiming to become the first player for 37 years to win three of golf's four majors in one season, tees off in the U.S. PGA championship at Shoal Creek Thursday with two of the people most likely to stop him.

In the opening two rounds Briton Faldo, winner of the U.S. Masters and British Open titles, partners two Americans, defending PGA champion Payne Stewart and Hale Irwin, the man who ended his chances of the grand slam.

Irwin finished a shot ahead of Faldo in the U.S. Open in June and went on to beat fellow-American Mike Donald in a playoff to become the oldest winner at 45 and claim the title for a third time.

Stewart came closest to depriving Faldo of his second British Open when he cut the deficit to two strokes with six holes to play before bogeying three of those holes to finish joint runner-up.

If Faldo is to become the first player since American Ben Hogan in 1953 to win three major titles in one year — and one leading British bookmaker makes him 4-1 favourite to achieve the feat — he will need to beware Stewart.

Stewart, who is third in the world rankings behind Australian Greg Norman and Faldo and second in the U.S. money winners' list, will be determined to win his second major and not let another American title go overseas.

Faldo, playing the finest golf of his career after having his swing remodelled, is intent on proving himself the best player in the world and dominating the majors.

He has said he believes winning the grand slam is possible and has destroyed suggestions that he inherits titles rather than wins them this year in defending the U.S. Masters and winning the British Open by five shots.

He also won a psychological

battle with Norman in the British Open at St. Andrew's last month.

The pair were locked in a tremendous contest after the first two rounds, but Norman's game collapsed and he may not have recovered mentally to mount a serious challenge at Shoal Creek.

American Curtis Strange, who won consecutive U.S. opens in 1988 and 1989, has struggled to make an impression this year.

Seeking a hat-trick of opens, he was within two shots after three rounds before slumping to finish six behind and last month he failed to make the cut at the British Open.

Whoever wins, this PGA championship is likely to be remembered more for the racial controversy over Shoal Creek's all-white members' policy which sparked off threats of picketing and television sponsorship withdrawals.

Planned protests were cancelled when the club agreed last week to admit a black businessman as an honorary member.

Tokyo share losses mount for fifth day

TOKYO (R) — Investors' worries about the Middle East crisis sent Tokyo shares to their tenth largest drop in history Tuesday, the fifth consecutive day of losses.

The key Nikkei average ended down 946.46 points, or 3.31 per cent, to 27,653.07 after losing more than 1,300 points earlier.

"It's horrible," said Mike Morizumi, associate strategist at Shearson Lehman Hutton Asia Inc. in Tokyo. "Have we stopped falling yet?"

"The market looks like the Kuwaiti army," said Kenneth Courtis, strategist at D.B. Group in Tokyo. "It's got tank tracks all over it."

The benchmark index dipped to a new traded low for the year of 27,240.94 before buyers more than halved the earlier losses.

Iraq's takeover of Kuwait has rocked Japan's financial markets with fears of inflation and tighter credit. Yen bond yields have soared, the 10-year government bond reaching 8.090.

"It's shocking to see the yield on Japanese yen bonds reach that of a U.S. bond," said Brad Bauer, manager of Japanese equity sales for Barclays de Zoete Wedd.

Investors who dumped shares in Asia were also motivated by news of the 93-point dive in the Dow Jones industrial index Monday night.

"Technically speaking the market has hit bottom already," said a trader at a Japanese house.

"But Wall Street may continue to decline again tomorrow, and no one knows what will happen in the Middle East, so investors are afraid to take new positions," he noted.

The Australian stockmarket almost retraced its way back into positive territory after sharp losses in the morning. The All Ordinaries ended 0.7 points weaker at 1517.6.

In Singapore, share prices ended the morning broadly weaker but also off early lows on selective bargain hunting, brokers said.

The Straits Times Industrial index of 30-Singapore blue chips fell 55.32 points to end the morning at 1,359.50, after plunging to 1,346.76 in the first-half session.

In Hong Kong, an about-turn in sentiment brought buyers back into the local bourse which closed only slightly lower after a day of hectic trading, brokers said.

Australia may find Iraq sanctions costly

CANBERRA (R) — Trade sanctions against Iraq could cost Australia hundreds of millions of dollars in lost sales, and much more if Iraq defaults on payments due for past wheat purchases.

Australia's total exports to Iraq and Kuwait were worth 388 million dollars (\$306 million) last year. Major exports were live sheep and wheat.

Exporters must now try to find alternative markets following Australia's decision to obey United Nations sanctions banning trade with Iraq and Kuwait.

Australian exporters are owed 613 million dollars (\$484 million) for wheat sales already made to Iraq on credit, with 197 million (\$156 million) payable in the next 12 months. Primary Industries and Energy Minister John Kerin said.

He said Australia had guaranteed 490 million (\$387 million) of the total, but added: "We naturally assume Iraq will honour its debts."

Kerin said Iraq had always settled payments on time, even during its war with Iran.

Frozen Kuwaiti assets in Japan total \$30b

TOKYO (R) — Japan's move to freeze Kuwait and Iraqi assets will affect between \$8.6 and \$30 billion, virtually all of it Kuwaiti, finance industry and government sources said Tuesday.

The Japan-Kuwait Friendship Society estimates Kuwaiti government investments in Japan at \$8.6 billion, while foreign ministry officials put the figure much higher, at \$20 billion to \$30 billion.

Iraqi assets in Japan are negligible, finance industry officials said.

Complicating the financial picture, Iraq owes Japanese firms about 600 billion yen (\$4.27 billion), industry sources say. Most of this results from Japanese

loans in the 1970s and 1980s to build power and fertilizer plants and garment factories.

Of major Japanese trading houses, Mitsubishi Corp., Marubeni Corp. and Sumitomo Corp. together are exposed to 60 to 70 per cent of Iraq's debt to Japan, trade sources said.

Mitsubishi, Marubeni, Sumitomo, Mitsu and Co. and others handle about 25 per cent of Japan's oil imports and coordinate all Middle East orders for Japanese plant and equipment.

Iraq has been repaying some of its debts to private companies, including those from Japan, in crude oil.

White House questions petrol price increases

WASHINGTON (R) — The Bush administration is examining a rash of U.S. retail petrol price increases and will prosecute any firms that take unfair advantage of instability in the Gulf to boost prices, officials said Monday.

"We will look closely for any indication that these increases may be the result of anti-competitive activity," U.S. Assistant Attorney General James Rill said in a statement.

He said any violations would be met with "vigorous antitrust prosecution."

Retail petrol prices have risen sharply since Iraq's takeover of the oil-producing Gulf emirate of Kuwait on Thursday, tracking an increase in crude oil costs. The price hikes have come even though there is a weeks-long lag between the time more expensive

oil is refined and starts appearing at petrol stations.

Retail petrol prices have risen as much as 15 cents a gallon since last week.

The sudden increases brought criticism from the White House Monday. Spokesman Martin Fitzwater said: "There have been some increases in the spot price of crude oil but it is not clear that all the price increases that have been reported at the consumer level are necessary."

Declaring that there was no cause for concern about an oil shortage at the moment, Fitzwater said: "We would urge oil companies not to be anticipatory. It would be most unfortunate if there was any gouging or anyone was trying to take advantage of the situation," he added at a regular briefing for reporters.

Analysts see more losers than winners from oil price hikes

NEW YORK (AP) — Houston real estate dealers and the Soviet Union are potential gainers, but nearly everyone else stands to lose economically if the Iraqi takeover of Kuwait leads to a long spell of high oil prices, analysts say.

"The oil price increases are both recessionary and inflationary and there are many more losers than winners," Allen Sinai, an economist with Boston Co. and Economic Advisers Inc., said in an interview.

"If the price increase sticks, it will lead to a major transfer of wealth from non-oil producing countries to oil countries," he noted.

He and other economists and industry analysts listed a long string of losers if the Middle East crisis leads to sustained oil price increases: The auto industry, housing, nearly all consumer-related industries, food, entertainment and travel firms.

But higher prices might benefit others, analysts say: "Investors in gold and other precious metals, domestic oil companies and oil drilling companies, and the economies of oil-rich states like Texas and Louisiana."

Added Sinai: "The Soviet Union, with its oil and gold reserves, is a potential winner."

Analysts stressed that the impact depends on whether the oil price increase proves to be a monetary or a long-term fact of life.

John Chadderdon, editor of Offshore Data Services, a Houston-based publisher of information on drilling for oil and gas, said if oil prices rise well above \$20 a barrel and stay there, that might spur exploration in the Gulf of Mexico.

He speculated that what's good for domestic oil companies might be good, in the long run, for local real estate in oil-producing regions of the country.

George McCauley, an oil analyst for the National Utility Service Inc., a consulting firm, said "monitors already feeling the effects of the gas pump will continue to be losers, along with air travellers."

Pan American World Airways and Northwest have announced ticket price increases to offset rising jet fuel costs.

Cautious gold price rise dismays traders

LONDON (R) — Gold has risen by around \$10 an ounce since Iraq moved into Kuwait last Thursday but bullion market analysts and dealers say the increase is disappointing at a time of high international tension.

"Oil prices have soared, world stock markets fallen and the dollar slipped, but gold has edged up cautiously, underlining how its appeal as a 'safe haven' investment has faded."

"With oil prices racing ahead, gold should be in the 400s (dollar per ounce) by now," said Michael Spriggs, head of precious metal research at Warburg Securities in London.

At the Tuesday morning London fixing, a benchmark for world prices, gold was set at \$383.95 an ounce. By early afternoon in Europe it was being quoted at around \$386.

"Gold's performance over the last few days has certainly been very disappointing," said Graham Birch, precious metals analyst at Australian stockbrokers Ord-Minnett.

Analysts said large gold sales earlier this year by Middle East investors and the threat of big Soviet sales to raise much needed hard currency, have put the lid on any sparkling performance from the precious metal.

Some analysts doubted that strong investor demand for gold would appear with world interest rates generally high and now likely to edge even higher in some nations to counter the inflationary effects of rising oil prices.

Others have suggested some large European bullion banks may be reluctant to deal with Middle East investors as Western nations may extend their asset-freezing measures in reaction to Iraq's takeover of Kuwait.

Soviet Union to introduce currency exchanges Jan. 1

MOSCOW (R) — The Soviet Union announced Tuesday it would introduce currency exchanges from Jan. 1 next year at which the rouble would be bought and sold against other currencies at market rates.

The announcement, carried by the official TASS news agency, said the decision had been taken by the Soviet government Aug. 4 as part of preparations for the introduction of a market economy.

Under the decision, TASS said, a central exchange would be opened in Moscow and others in capitals of the 15 Soviet republics and major cities "for deals in foreign currency to be concluded at market exchange rates."

The agency said Gosbank, the strongly government-influenced state bank, would control interbank and all other operations at then new exchanges — which will

be the first in the Soviet Union since the 1920s.

Gosbank, the finance ministry, the state bank for foreign economic relations, Vneshekonombank and republican ministries "will take measures to support the rouble's rate against foreign currencies," TASS added, citing the statement.

The unexpected measure appeared to be a cautious first step towards convertibility of the rouble, an aim even economists closely associated with the government have said is unlikely to be achieved before the mid-1990s at the earliest.

The rouble at present has two officially approved rates — an official one of 0.58 against the dollar and a tourist rate of 5.8 to the dollar. But on the black market, Soviet business publications

say, the dollar sells for up to 25 roubles.

It has been widely assumed by foreign and Soviet specialists that the rouble could not be freely traded on world markets without devastating effects on the already crumbling economy before radical economic reforms took effect.

The government decision, as quoted by TASS, did not make clear exactly how far the rouble would be exposed.

It is being rapidly replaced in domestic trade by barter and even the dollar amid widespread shortages of many goods.

To support the rouble, TASS said, Gosbank and the other bodies controlling the new exchanges "will use currency resources of the Soviet government and the governments of union republics as well as funds drawn from foreign banks."

Oil prices go up to around \$29 a barrel

LONDON (R) — Crude oil prices surged even higher Tuesday following the United Nations' imposition of severe trade sanctions on Iraq.

London futures prices for the world benchmark, crude Brent blend, from Britain's North Sea, rose as high as \$28.65 a barrel, up nearly \$2 from Monday's London close of \$26.78. It was the highest since November 1985.

Traders said the markets were so volatile that future direction was impossible to predict.

"There's just no reference point," one said.

In the Far East, trading in West Texas Intermediate, the U.S. benchmark grade, fell just short of \$30 a barrel.

Prices rose initially as a string of countries individually pledged to back the U.N. trade embargo. A key statement came from Turkey, through which Iraq exports half its oil via a pipeline, saying it would support U.N. sanctions.

Iraq had earlier announced it was sharply reducing the flow through this route "for marketing reasons."

But as countries reliant on oil from Iraq and Kuwait scrambled for alternative supplies, there was no immediate evidence of any other producers attempting to make up the shortfall.

Trade sources in the Far East said regional producers like Indonesia, Malaysia, Australia and China had little spare capacity to cash in on demand from Japan, Korea and Taiwan.

And leading Gulf OPEC ministers have called on the organisation not to exploit the situation by increasing output beyond their agreement in Geneva last month to hold production to just less than 22.5 million barrels per day (b/d).

Two main non-Gulf producers in the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), Nigeria and Venezuela, have also pledged not to turn up the taps, at least for the time being.

In London, a spokesman for the International Chamber of Shipping said it was inevitable that countries supporting the sanctions would ban merchant ships from Iraqi and Kuwaiti waters.

There is some market speculation that Iraq might try to circumvent the embargo by trading crude to overseas refineries where it could be converted into oil products.

Unlike crude oils, which have specific, easily identifiable characteristics, the origin of products such as gasoline or heating oil is virtually impossible to determine.

Product prices in Europe followed the surge in crude with premium gasoline grades up \$20-\$25 a tonne. Oil companies in Britain have already raised pump prices by up to 10.5 pence (20 cents) per gallon and warned of more to come.

Brazilian fuel prices rise 8.5%

RIO DE JANEIRO, Brazil (AP) — Brazil has raised fuel prices 8.5 per cent to compensate for its soaring inflation and an expected rise in oil prices following Iraq's takeover of Kuwait.

The pump price of gasoline rose from 38 new cruzeiros a litre (\$2.02 a gallon) to 40.04 new cruzeiros (\$2.15 a gallon). The retail price of diesel fuel, kerosene, and cooking gas also went up.

Pure alcohol fuel went from 28 new cruzeiros a litre (\$1.49 a gallon) to 30.05 new cruzeiros (\$1.60 a gallon).

The government subsidises alcohol to make it 25 per cent cheaper than gasoline, although it cost twice as much as gasoline to produce. Approximately one-third of Brazil's 13.5 million vehicles run on alcohol made from domestically grown sugar cane.

The fuel increase is the eighth since January. However, it is the first since President Fernando Collor De Mello decreed drastic economic reforms on Mar. 16 to halt the country's soaring inflation, which was running up to 5,000 per cent annually.

The government adjusts fuel prices for inflation, which rose 10.79 per cent in July, the highest since March. It raised prices 17 times last year, when inflation was 1,765 per cent.

But the announcement was seen as a reflexive action to Iraq's invasion of Kuwait Thursday.

AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

| Tuesday, August 7, 1990 Central Bank official rates | | | |
|--|-------|-------|-------|
| U.S. dollar | Buy | Sell | |
| Pound Sterling | 123.8 | 124.2 | |
| Deutschemark | 418.5 | 421.0 | |
| Swiss franc | 497.2 | 500.2 | |
| French franc | | | 124.8 |
| Japanese yen (for 100) | | | 437.3 |
| Dutch guilder | | | 371.2 |
| Swedish crown | | | 113.7 |
| Italian lire (for 100) | | | 37.2 |
| Belgian franc (for 100) | | | 203.2 |

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

| LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midsession on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Tuesday. | | | |
|--|-------------|------------------|--|
| One Sterling | 1.8795/8805 | U.S. dollar | |
| One U.S. dollar | 1.1485/90 | Canadian dollar | |
| | 1.5765/70 | Deutschemark | |
| | 1.7750/60 | Dutch guilders | |
| | 1.3275/85 | Swiss francs | |
| | 32.39/44 | Belgian francs | |
| | 5.2800/50 | French francs | |
| | 1153/1154 | Italian lire | |
| | 150.00/10 | Japanese yen | |
| | 5.7975/8025 | Swedish crowns | |
| | 6.1150/1200 | Norwegian crowns | |
| | 6.0125/75 | Danish crowns | |
| One ounce of gold | 384.25/75 | U.S. dollars | |

China's tourist industry improves dramatically

BEIJING (AP) — A dramatic increase in the number of overseas Chinese visitors to their mother country has led to the almost complete recovery of China's tourist industry from the effects of last year's military crackdown.

He Guangwei, vice chairman of the National Tourism Administration said at a news conference that there had been a 2.6 per cent increase to 13.23 million in the number of people who visited China in the first six months of this year.

"That compared to the roughly 12.9 million visitors during the first half of 1989, when Beijing was in the throes of a pro-democracy movement from mid-April to June that kept many tourists away."

He did not say how this year's figures compared with the same period in 1988. The total for that year was 31 million tourists.

After China initiated its liberalisation and modernisation policies in 1978, the number of tourists grew by an average of 23 per cent each year.

That growth halted abruptly last spring with the pro-democracy movement and subsequent army crackdown that left hundreds, perhaps thousands of civilians dead in Beijing's streets.

China tried desperately to lure

tourists back last year, slashing plane fares and hotel room rates — even bringing 400 foreign travel agents on a junket to Beijing.

As a result, the number of tourists on organised tours so far this year — 1.9 million — is nearly 90 per cent of the same period in 1988, he said.

But the tourism industry's recovery seems mainly due to a surge in the number of ethnic Chinese visiting the mainland.

Of this year's tourists, 95 per cent, or 12.5 million, were ethnic Chinese from other countries or "compatriots" from Hong Kong, Macao and Taiwan, he said.

The number of Taiwanese tourists jumped 48.5 per cent from the same period last year, while overseas Chinese tourists increased by 53.9 per cent, he added.

Tourism in the first six months of 1990 brought in \$750 million for China, way down from the \$970 million for the same period last year, he said.

The administration is hoping the 11th Asian Games, to be held in Beijing in September, will generate more tourist income for China. It has set a goal of raising \$2 billion to \$2.2 billion for the year, according to Liu Yi, chairman of the tourism.

Jordan Times

Tel: 667171

Cinema **RAINBOW** Tel: 625155

FRANTIC

Performances: 3:30, 6:30, 8:30 p.m.

Cinema **CONCORD** Tel: 677420

Dured Lahham
Madeline Tabar
In **KAFROUN**
3:30, 6:45, 8:45, 10:45
ONCE BITTEN
\$15 only

Cinema **PHILADELPHIA** Tel: 634144

Sharihan
Kamal Al Shinnawi
Salah Qabil
In **THE SCORPIO**
(Arabic)
Performances: 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30

Cinema **NJOUM** Tel: 675571

Adel Imam, Yusra
In **The Devil's Island**
Performances: 12:30, 3:30, 6:30, 8:30, 10:45 p.m.
Friday & Sunday extra show at 11:00 a.m.

Cinema **PLAZA** Tel: 699238

The Most Beautiful Woman In Universe
Performances: 12:30, 3:30, 8:30, 10:45 p.m.

4 RENT
Many villas and apartments for rent & sale furnished or unfurnished in Abdoun, Um Utheina, Sweifeh and many other locations.
For more details please call **ABDOUN REAL ESTATE**
Tel: 810609, 810605
Fax: 810520

BABY-SITTER & HOUSEKEEPER WANTED
Arab-speaking, experienced and mature female babysitter and housekeeper is wanted to live-in with a Jordanian family. Minimum 35 years old, kind to children, and ready to travel and relocate with the family. Previous work certificates and recommendation letters are required.
Please call for interview Tel. 674668, morning from 9:00 - 11:00 and afternoons 5:00 - 7:00.

VILLA FOR RENT
A fully well furnished deluxe three bedroomed villa with two salons, living room, three bathrooms, equipped kitchen, maid's quarters, garage, telephone, etc...
Location: 7th Circle, Abdullah Ghosheh Street.
For more information please call landlord at phone no. 814766

ANC ends armed struggle

PRETORIA, South Africa (AP) — The African National Congress said Tuesday it had suspended all armed action against the white minority government, opening the way to negotiations on the end of apartheid.

"In the interest of moving as speedily as possible towards a negotiated peaceful political settlement, and in the context of the agreements reached, the ANC announced it was now suspending all armed actions with immediate effect," said a joint statement released by the ANC and the government after 16 hours of talks.

"The way is now open to proceed towards negotiations on a new constitution," said the statement.

It was issued at a press conference by a weary, but smiling President F.W. de Klerk, and ANC Deputy President Nelson Mandela. They talked from 9 a.m. (0700 GMT) Monday until just before 1 a.m. Tuesday (2300 GMT Monday), with breaks for lunch and dinner.

Mandela said the decision to end the ANC's 29 years of guerrilla activity was made before his five-man delegation arrived for the talks with de Klerk and members of his cabinet.

Previously, the ANC had demanded that the government free hundreds of prisoners convicted of politically motivated crimes, grant indemnity to some 20,000 exiles, remove laws that restrict political activity, and end the state of emergency in Natal province.

But Mandela said last week that suspension of the armed struggle would be considered if it appeared the government was moving towards meeting the conditions for formal negotiations.

The joint statement says the government will consider repealing some security laws and lifting the police emergency powers in Natal Province. It also says both sides will draw up plans for release of ANC-connected prisoners and the return of exiles.

"We think what has happened today forms an important turning point," de Klerk said.

Asked what the government had conceded, de Klerk said his administration would try to ensure that the police deal with all problems in what he called "an even-handed manner."

In a bit of friction at the news conference, Mandela interjected that the government had so far failed to bring the police under control.

"It's a totally unsatisfactory situation, and until the government tames the police, we will be dissatisfied," Mandela said.

Mandela had said last week that the ANC leadership was having trouble getting messages to its guerrillas after operating as an underground, outlawed organisation for 30 years. He said he had asked de Klerk to understand that a complete cessation of guerrilla activity would take some time.

Mandela said Tuesday that, as far as the ANC leadership is concerned, there will no longer be any infiltration of men and arms across the border from countries where the ANC has camps.

"We hope that we will be able to communicate with our people and inform them of what we have decided," he said.

The joint statement said the government would review, and consider repealing, laws under which scores of ANC activists, including a member of the national executive committee, have been detained by police during the past few weeks.

Police have said they are investigating an alleged plot by Communist members of the ANC to revolt and seize power if negotiations fail. Although the ANC's guerrilla wing, Spear of the Nation, has made no major attacks in the past year, ANC officials acknowledged that guerrillas continued to infiltrate the country, stockpile weapons, and plan attacks.

"No further armed action and



Nelson Mandela

related activity by the ANC and its military wing, Mkhonto we Sizwe (Spear of the Nation), will take place," said the joint statement.

Mandela had previously resisted pressure from the government and many Western countries to formally end the armed struggle of the guerrilla wing, which he helped found in 1961. The ANC's first acts of sabotage, against power stations and electricity pylons, occurred a year after the government banned the ANC and several other black organisations.

Mandela said during his 1964 trial for sabotage and plotting the overthrow of the government that one reason for forming the guerrilla wing was to coordinate militant action, and keep innocent people from getting hurt or killed.

During Mandela's last years in prison, the ANC guerrilla wing conducted an urban bombing campaign which killed 37 people and injured 680 from July 1986 through August 1989.

The joint statement said the two sides had also expressed serious concern about the general level of violence in Natal province, where 5,000 people have died in the five years of fighting between ANC affiliates and supporters of the rival Zulu-based Inkatha party.

Pakistan under martial laws

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan (AP) — Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto's 20-month-old government, rocked by allegations of rampant corruption, has been replaced by a caretaker government armed with sweeping emergency powers and backed by an army ready to step in.

Exercising his constitutional power, President Ghulam Ishaq Khan abruptly dismissed Ms. Bhutto's government Monday and dissolved the National Assembly, the law-making lower house of parliament.

"Corruption and nepotism in the federal government has reached such proportions" that the people lost faith in their rulers, the president said in a statement.

Ishaq Khan set new elections for Oct. 24 and declared a state of emergency, saying the national security was "threatened by external aggression and by internal disturbances."

The president did not elaborate, but his statement implied he was referring to border tensions with neighbouring India and relentless ethnic violence in the southern Sind province, Ms. Bhutto's home and power base.

Emergency rule, valid for up to four months, allows the president and the caretaker government to suspend individual rights and civil courts and to make laws.

The president's action caught Ms. Bhutto, her cabinet and members of her Pakistan People's Party off guard. Opposition politicians and dissident members of Ms. Bhutto's party had been saying privately for weeks the dismissal was imminent.

Ms. Bhutto, 37, called Ishaq Khan's charges a "slander campaign" against her democratically elected government but said she did not believe the president had betrayed her.

"Other forces wanted me out," a subdued Ms. Bhutto — the first woman to head a modern Muslim nation — told a news conference.

Many diplomats and political analysts said they believed the president had the blessings of the Pakistan army, which has ruled the country for 25 years of its 43-year history.

As Ishaq Khan spoke to reporters, the army took control of the state-run television network and the telephone and telegraph exchange. Soldiers armed with automatic weapons were deployed throughout the capital.

Pakistan's most powerful soldier, Army Chief of Staff Gen. Mirza Aslam Beg, said the military had no intention of seizing power.

"We are not going to get involved in politics," Beg said before opposition leader Mustafa Jatoi was sworn in as acting prime



Benazir Bhutto

minister. Most of those attending the ceremony were members of the military high command.

Later, Ishaq Khan issued a seemingly veiled warning to Ms. Bhutto and her party.

"Undemocratic protests over this constitutional and democratic step will not be tolerated," he said in a nationwide television address. "If someone acts irresponsibly and in order to escape public accountability tries to misguide the people, he shall be strictly dealt with."

Ms. Bhutto urged party members and supporters to remain peaceful and not do anything that would give the army a reason to take over. She said she planned to run in the elections.

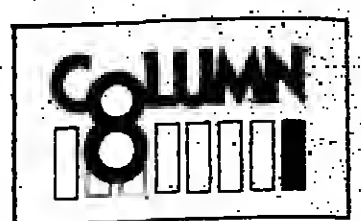
Educated at Harvard and Oxford, Ms. Bhutto inherited the political mantle of her father, the late Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto. He was ousted by Gen. Mohammad Zia Ul Haq in a 1977 coup and hanged two years later.

Zia himself was killed, in a mysterious plane crash on Aug. 17, 1988. His death led to the first democratic elections after more than a decade of military rule.

When Ms. Bhutto, who led her party to victory, took office in December 1988, she pledged to restore democracy and her family name.

But many diplomats and political analysts say Ms. Bhutto never made the transition from the scrappy fighter of political oppression to the prime minister of Pakistan.

Her popular support, rated at 54 per cent when she took office, was steadily eroded by mounting accusations of corruption against senior cabinet ministers and members of her family, including husband Asif Zardari. None of the allegations was proved, but a poll released last month showed Ms. Bhutto's popularity had tumbled to 34.



Still at it

MOSCOW (R) — KGB security police arrested a scientist at a Moscow research institute as he tried to pass top-secret defence information to a foreigner. TASS news agency reported. A KGB statement issued by the official said the scientist, who was not named, was charged with treason. It did not say what area of research was involved nor when the arrest was made. Senior KGB officials have dismissed calls from liberals in the Soviet media for a rundown of its operations. The agency, still possibly the most powerful security service in the world, insists the danger from Western espionage is still strong.

Repentant returns

MADRID (R) — A member of the Cuban national ballet who had sought asylum in Spain returned to Havana Monday after changing his mind about defecting, officials said. Alfredo Rodriguez, fighting designer for the troupe, asked for refuge last week along with the prima ballerina Dagmar Moradillo after performing in Majorca. Cuban diplomats said reports that the two were married were untrue. The couple had said they planned to settle in Miami and Moradillo complained that the economy and political situation on the Communist-ruled Caribbean island made life there unbearable. Rodriguez changed his mind and went to the Cuban embassy in Madrid where he stayed the night before leaving for Havana on a Monday-morning flight. The sources said: "A Cuban exile group in Madrid, the Cuban Centre, alleged Rodriguez was kidnapped by agents of Cuban President Fidel Castro when he went out to buy a newspaper last Sunday. The diplomats said he went to the embassy voluntarily. They said Moradillo was going ahead with asylum procedures."

New blood

AUBAGNE, France (R) — The lifting of the "iron curtain" has led to a surge of East Europeans joining the French foreign legion, a senior officer has said. About a quarter of all new recruits this year come from East European countries, especially Poland and Hungary, said Colonel Gerard de Lajudie, deputy commander of the crack fighting unit. "Our figures for the first half of the year, the period corresponding to the fall of border restrictions between East and West, show a surge of recruits from Eastern Europe," he told Reuters. In the first half of last year, only four per cent of the legion's recruits came from West Europe. The 8,500-man French legion was founded more than 150 years ago.

45 prisoners escape

PANAMA CITY (R) — Forty-five prisoners, some described as highly dangerous, escaped Monday while being transported to an infamous penal colony off the Pacific coast of Panama, authorities said. They said 10 of the prisoners were rounded up soon after their escape, but 35 others remained on the loose. An interior ministry spokesman said the prisoners fled before dawn as they were being sent by bus from Panama City to a port in central Veraguas province. From the port they were to have been taken by ship to Coiba, a prison island known for torture and death under former military leader Manuel Antonio Noriega, ousted in the U.S. invasion of Panama last December.

Drinking slurs your speech

BONN (R) — West German police say they have proved what most people already know — drinking too much makes your speech slurred. The federal crime office announced on Tuesday that scientists taped the speech of 40 policemen told to get "systematically drunk." The result, it said, was "a considerable drop in the ability of expression, an increase in the numbers of slips of the tongue and exceptionally long pauses." Scientists also learned ordinary people listening to tapes of drunken and sober persons had no problems hearing if they had been imbibing or not. The result showed that persons without linguistic education were pretty much able to distinguish between sober speech and speech under the influence of alcohol. The federal crime office said the statement said the result would be useful in courts to establish, for instance, whether a telephone bomb threat had been made by a drunk.

Eastern Sri Lanka under curfew

COLOMBO (R) — Sri Lanka put its eastern Trincomalee district under curfew after more than 200 Muslims were killed in attacks by Tamil rebels in the past four days, military sources said Tuesday.

The government promised protection to the Muslim community and rushed security forces reinforcements to Muslim villages in the east.

"I won't allow any more Muslims to be killed," Deputy Defence Minister Ranjan Wijeratne told parliament on Tuesday.

A military official said an indefinite curfew was imposed on Monday night in Trincomalee to "defuse mounting tension between Muslims and Tamils," the two minority communities on the island.

He said police and troops were rushed to Trincomalee where Tamils, Muslims and Sinhalese are found in almost equal numbers.

The Liberation Tigers of Tamil

Eelam (LTTE) separatist group has been blamed by the government, the opposition and Muslim leaders for the massacre of Muslims.

The Tigers, in a statement issued from their office in London, denied responsibility for the killings.

Wijeratne said the Tigers were trying to promote clashes between Tamils and Muslims in other parts of the country.

Police said a group of Muslims attacked the shops of two Tamil car dealers in Colombo on Tuesday, damaging some cars.

On Monday some Muslims tried to march on a Hindu temple in Colombo where Tamils worship. Two people were injured before police dispersed the crowd.

Muslim leaders appealed to the government on Tuesday to protect their people from the rebels and also asked for arms.

"I appeal to the government... to provide immediately arms to

the Muslim community to look after their security," the Sri Lanka Muslim Congress leader M.H.M. Ashroff said in parliament.

He said 538 Muslims had been killed by the Tigers in the eastern province since June 11 when the rebels launched their latest offensive against the security forces.

At least 40 farmers were killed at Pannairupukkur and 18 in nearby Alindamaduru near eastern Akkaraipattu town in the past two days.

On Friday suspected Tigers burst into two mosques in adjoining Batticaloa district and sprayed bullets on Muslims at prayer, killing 150 and injuring 100.

"The LTTE is gradually converting the Muslim mosques virtually into mortuaries," Ashroff said.

He said the Tigers, in handbills pasted on dead bodies, had told Muslims to leave the north and the east before August 20.

'Gorbachev -Yeltsin pact amounts to political alliance'

MOSCOW (R) — President Mikhail Gorbachev's surprise pact with the Soviet Union's leading radical Boris Yeltsin on a joint economic reform programme amounts to a political alliance, Pravda said on Tuesday.

The Communist Party newspaper, edited by Gorbachev ally Ivan Frolov, said it would lead to a radicalisation of attempts to move the country towards a market economy.

The front-page commentary praised both men for their political flexibility and sense of responsibility in subduing their long-standing mutual antagonism.

A joint committee, selected by the two men to draft a new, more radical programme by the end of August, held its first meeting on Monday.

Yeltsin, president of the giant Russian Republic and the standard-bearer of radical reformers, chaired the meeting. Gorbachev is on holiday in the Crimea.

Since his break with Gorbachev in 1987, Yeltsin has kept up a barrage of criticism of the slow pace of reform, saying the Soviet leader had failed to overcome the resistance of conservatives in the huge bureaucracy and Communist party.

Radical politicians hailed the agreement, announced last Wednesday, as a sign Gorbachev was moving to the left.

The Pravda article — signed by one of its top editorial staff, Yegor Gaidar — was also enthusiastic about the accord, referring to it twice as a "political alliance."

"It seems that by September 1,

1990 the country will really have a well-worked-out, serious, comprehensive document opening the way for a radicalisation of reform and the stabilisation of the economy," it said.

Over the past stormy months, Gorbachev has steered a course between the radicals and the still strong conservative wing of the Communist Party.

Last month's party congress was marked by fierce attacks on the more reformist members of Gorbachev's team but the Kremlin chief counter-attacked, signalling he was ready to lead the country to more radical economic and political change.

Yeltsin and several like-minded politicians quit the party. Gorbachev's closest aides, such as Alexander Yakovlev, declined to stand for the party politburo.

for decades the Soviet Union's main power centre.

The pact with Yeltsin, who once described Gorbachev as "the lover of half-measures," was the more surprising in that it came after weeks of increasingly sharp confrontation.

Since his election as president of the biggest of the 15 Soviet republics in May, in the teeth of opposition from Gorbachev, Yeltsin has kept up the pressure.

Russia has drawn up a rival, more radical reform programme, declared that its laws take precedence over Soviet laws, laid claim to all banks on its territory and started direct talks with secessionist Baltic republics.

Pravda said prospects for reform had seemed gloomy until recently, given the hostility between the two men.

Soviet experts defuse bomb

MOSCOW (R) — Soviet army experts have defused a powerful bomb clamped to the bottom of a car outside a Moscow house, TASS news agency said Tuesday.

It was not immediately clear whether the attempted attack had political motives or who was the intended target. One police source linked the bomb to rivalry between criminal gangs.

TASS said the expertly-made bomb could have destroyed the car, killed the occupants and damaged buildings over a large area if it had exploded.

It quoted an eye-witness as saying the device, clamped by magnets to the bottom of the

vehicle, fell off as the car accelerated away sharply from its parking place.

It was not clear when the incident occurred.

TASS said the bomb used a mercury detonator, which triggers an explosion when the car goes up or down hill. Similar devices have been used by the guerrilla Irish Republican Army in their campaign to end British rule in Northern Ireland.

An early report referred to the involvement of "terrorists" in the Moscow incident, suggesting political motives, but TASS later corrected the reference to "criminals."

U.S., Vietnam end 1st round of talks

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — The United States and Vietnam held their first formal talks on Cambodia on Monday, seeking a peace settlement to end 20 years of conflict in which millions of Cambodians have died.

"The American and Vietnamese sides have presented their views... especially on the issues of self-determination of the Cambodian people through general elections; of the restoration of peace; and the prevention of the Khmer Rouge's return to power," said Vietnam's U.N. ambassador, Trinh Xuan Lang.

The Khmer Rouge has drawn world condemnation because it presided over the deaths of over a million Cambodians from 1975-78 through executions, starvation and forced relocation. The

Khmer Rouge were ousted in Vietnam's invasion of Cambodia in 1978 and are now fighting with other guerrilla groups to regain control of the government.

Trinh led Vietnam's team on Monday and Kenneth M. Quinn, deputy assistant secretary of state for East Asian-Pacific affairs, led the U.S. delegation.

The talks also dealt with "the role of the United Nations, and international guarantees on the neutrality of Cambodia," Trinh told reporters after the 3½ hours of discussions at Vietnam's U.N. mission.

Most nations favour a ceasefire in Cambodia, followed by general elections to establish a new government. Differences exist over the role that the Khmer Rouge or the Hanoi-backed Phnom Penh

government would have in any transitional administration, which would be supervised by the United Nations.

Quinn declined to characterise the tone of the talks as he left, merely telling reporters that "we came up to talk about Cambodia as a result of Secretary (of State James) Baker's initiative and policy change, and that's what we did."

On July 18, Baker announced that the United States was withdrawing its recognition of the Khmer Rouge-dominated resistance coalition fighting the Vietnamese-installed government of Cambodia and would begin talks with Hanoi.

"We also brought up to PoW-mia issue," Quinn added, referring to the American soldiers still

missing in Indochina. U.S. officials say there are over 2,300 Americans missing in the region, including 1,678 in Vietnam.

In Washington, State Department spokeswoman Mary Carlin Yates said the discussions were "useful."

Trinh described the talks as "business-like," and said "we think that there is a better understanding." More U.S.-Vietnam talks will be held soon, at a time and place to be agreed upon, both sides said.

When questioned directly on whether the United States and Vietnam had narrowed their differences on the Cambodian issues, Trinh would only repeat that "better understanding" had emerged.

WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

Greek police arrest arms dealers

ATHENS, Greece (AP) — Police arrested two suspected arms dealers and found guns, hand grenades and maps of wealthy Athens suburbs in one of the men's weapons repair-store, police said Monday. The owner, identified as Vassilis Danalatos, 27, was charged Monday with criminal counts of arms dealing and possession and setting up an arms ring, a court official said on the condition of anonymity. Other charges were forgery and resisting authority. The plush suburbs that were reportedly marked on the maps — Kastri, Ekali, Glyfada and Voula — are home to politicians, industrialists and ship owners.

Nkomo sworn in as vice president

HARARE, Zimbabwe (AP) — President Robert Mugabe Monday swore in a second vice president, putting the final seal on a unity pact with the main opposition party he signed 2½ years ago. In a ceremony at Mugabe's official residence, Joshua Nkomo, 73, once a fugitive from Mugabe's police, became equal

in rank to vice president Simon Muzenda, a longtime ruling party loyalist. The post was created by a constitutional amendment passed by the 150-seat parliament. In a unity accord signed in December 1987 Mugabe's Zimbabwe African National Union merged with Zimbabwe African People's Union led by Nkomo. The two parties both fought in the guerrilla war that ended British colonial rule in 1980.

18 killed in head-on truck collision

HAVANA (R) — Eighteen people were killed and 31 were injured when a truck carrying families to a carnival collided head-on with another truck in eastern Cuba Sunday, the domestic news agency AIN said Monday. The road accident, the worst in Cuba this year, occurred on a bend on the main road between Cuba's second city of Santiago de Cuba and the town of Palma Soriano, some 950 kilometres southeast of Havana. AIN said most of the fatalities, which included a one-year-old baby and children aged four, six and seven, were travelling in a truck carrying 60 people to a carnival in Palma Soriano.